

"NEVER A DULL MOMENT."
-- IGN

BOSTON

3 99

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



ovel

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SONIC
THE
HEDGEHOG

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THE CHASE

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TM

THE HEDGEHOG



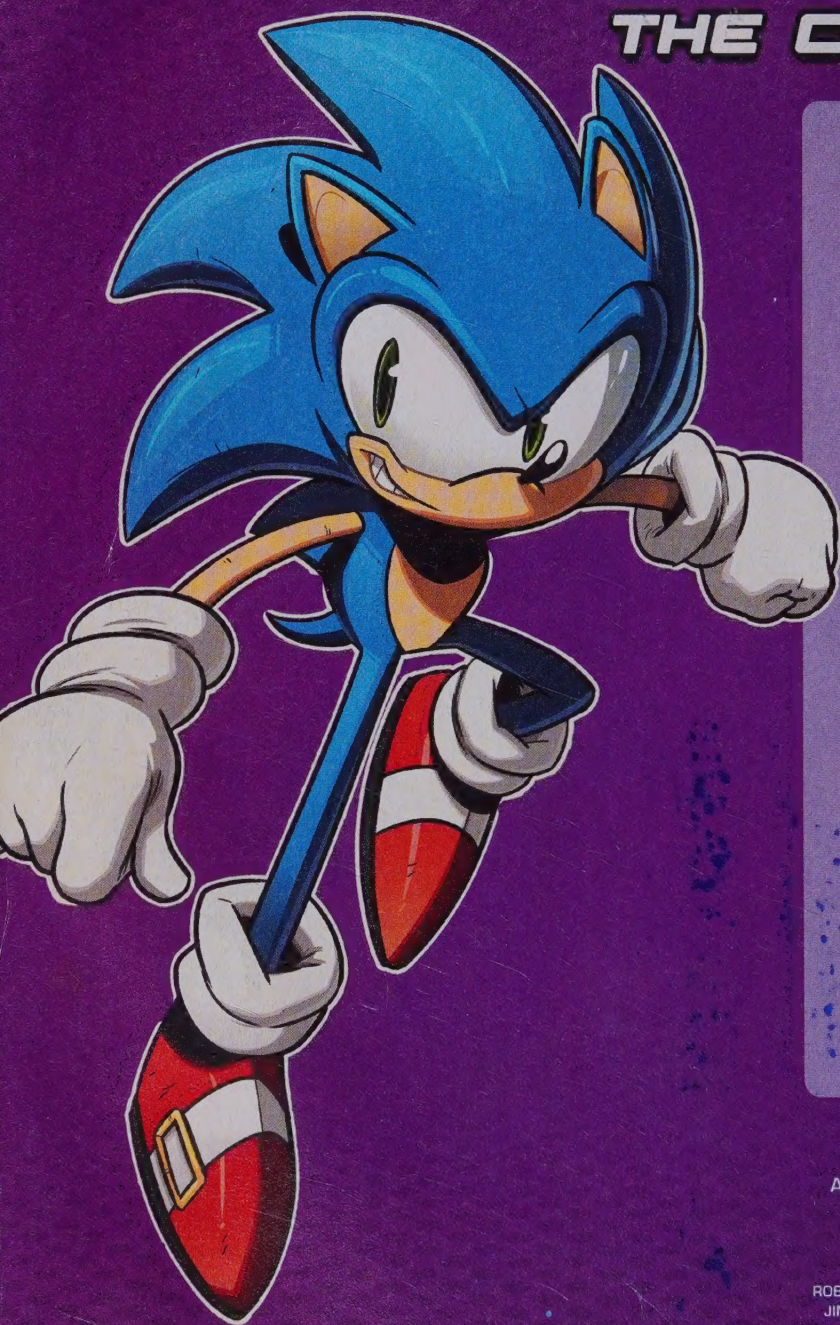
THE CHASE

WELCOME TO SONIC'S COMIC BOOK
ADVENTURES — A WORLD UNIQUE
AND BEYOND WHAT YOU KNOW
FROM THE SEGA GAMES! WHERE
SONIC AND HIS FRIENDS WORK
TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM THE
FORCES OF EVIL!

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

THE CHASE



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COVER BY
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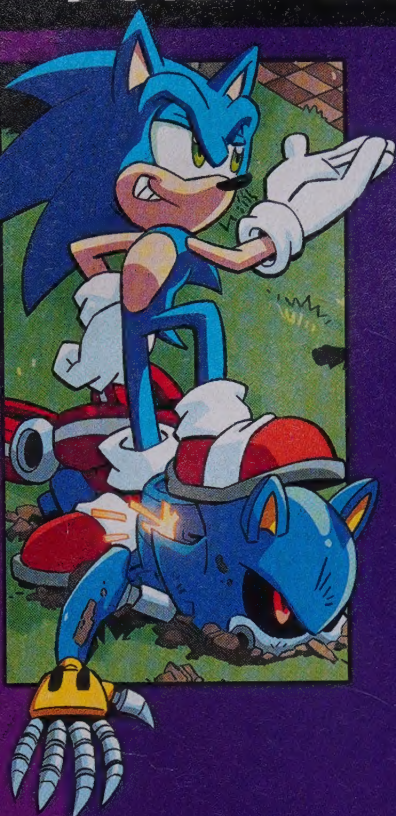


CHAPTER 1



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 257
COVER BY RAFA KNIGHT

PREVIOUSLY...



SONIC'S WORLD: IN PERIL!

Sonic the Hedgehog and his heroic Freedom Fighter friends have saved the world countless times over. Now they might be out of their league.

Thanks to a short-sighted and spiteful attack by Dr. Eggman, reality has been irreversibly changed. The chaotic energies at play pushed the world to the breaking point – and beyond!

Now hero and villain alike look on as the planet rips itself apart before their eyes. Fighting regional Egg Bosses is one thing, but the scale of this problem is larger than anything Sonic or Dr. Eggman have ever faced.

Our heroes better get ready, because the shattered world crisis has only just begun...



WHO'S WHO



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
WORLD HERO



MILES "TAILS" PROWER
SONIC'S BEST FRIEND



THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS
SALLY, ANTOINE, NICOLE, AMY,
BUNNIE & ROTOR



DR. EGGMAN
MAD SCIENTIST




STATION SQUARE,
SOLIMERCA...

SHATTERED WORLD
CRISIS--FIRST
HOURS...

"THIS POOR CITY HAS
ALREADY SEEN MORE THAN
ITS FAIR SHARE OF DISASTERS.

"THE PEOPLE STILL HAVEN'T
FULLY RECOVERED FROM PERFECT
CHAOS' ATTACK.

"NOW IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE
SITTING RIGHT ON A FAULT
LINE.



MILES "TAILS"
PROWER
FLYING GENIUS


DAMAGE CONTROL

"FREEDOM FIGHTERS
--WE'RE GOING TO
RESCUE THEM."

"TEAM FREEDOM--
YOUR SQUAD WILL
GET THE ENVIRON-
MENT UNDER CONTROL."



T-PUP
TAILS'
ROBO-
DOG



ROTOR THE
WALRUS
BATTLING
TECHNICIAN



BIG
THE CAT
GENTLE
TITAN

AMY ROSE
HAMMER-
SWINGING
HEROINE

SONIC THE
HEDGEHOG
FASTEST THING
ALIVE

OMOCHAO
"HELPFUL"
ROBO-CHAO

"TEAM FIGHTERS
--YOU'RE SAVING
AS MANY LIVES
AS YOU CAN."

ANTOINE
D'COOLETTE
COYOTE
SWORDSMAN

BUNNIE
"RABBOTT"
D'COOLETTE
CYBORG
SOUTHERN
BELLE

"THEY NEED
HEROES
DOWN THERE.
WE WON'T
LET THEM
DOWN."

ABOARD THE SKY PATROL, THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS' MOBILE BASE
OF OPERATIONS...

SONIC, YOU'RE A
RUNNER FOR BOTH
TEAMS. T-PUUP AND
OMOCHAO WILL BE
FEEDING ME YOUR
PROGRESS WHILE I
DIRECT YOU FROM
HERE.

O-CAM

SALLY
ACORN
TEAM
LEADER

THIS IS BAD, AND IT'S ONLY
GOING TO GET WORSE. I'LL
WATCH YOUR BACKS, AS BEST
I CAN, BUT LOOK OUT FOR
EACH OTHER, WE...WE CAN
HANDLE THIS. WE *HAVE* TO
HANDLE THIS.

I...I SHOULD BE
OUT THERE. I
SHOULD BE HELP-
ING, TOO. I'M N-NOT
AFRAID...*REALLY!*

CHEESE
THE CHAO
CREAM'S
COMPANION

CREAM THE RABBIT
HEROINE-IN-TRAINING

I NEED YOU TWO
HERE. IF I NEED ANY
HELP, IT'S UP TO YOU
AND CHEESE TO
SUPPORT ME. GOT IT?

OH! YES,
MA'AM!

CHAO-
CHAO!

BUT...AFTER EVERY-
ONE WAS UPSET BY
THOSE VISIONS...*

...CAN THEY
HANDLE SAVING A
WHOLE CITY?

WE DON'T
HAVE THE
LUXURY OF
DEALING WITH
...*THAT*...RIGHT
NOW.

ALL POWERED
UP, NICOLE? GOOD.
WHAT NEWS ARE
YOU GETTING
FROM THE WORLD
NETWORKS? I
NEED TO KNOW
WHAT OUR NEXT
MOVE IS.

IT'S BAD,
SALLY...

*STH VOL. 1 GN
"COUNTDOWN TO
CHAOS."

NICOLE THE HOLO-LYNX
LIVING COMPUTER

"...IT'S VERY
VERY BAD..."

CREEEAAK!

THE LOST WORLD

CHAO HUNTER.
GRAB IN
SPACE

CRASH!

HRRRGH!
I GOT THE
CRANE!
SOMEBODY
HANDLE THAT
CABLE!

SNIP

SONIC! AMY!
THIS LINE NEEDS
SECURING!

I'LL FIND SOME-
PLACE TO WEDGE
IT ON THIS END!

ONE
SAFETY LINE
COMING
UP!

PIKO!

WHEW!
YER A
HEAVY
SUCKER.

ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT, MA
CHERIE?

AH'M FINE,
SUGAR, JUST
...KINDA CON-
FUSED. AH
DIDN'T THINK
WE WERE IN
STATION
SQUARE FER
PERFECT
CHAOS'
ATTACK. BUT
AT THE SAME
TIME...

YOU ARE REMEMBERING
BEING HERE, RESCUING ZE
PEOPLE, TOO? *I AM ALSO
HAVING ZE CONFLICTING
MEMORIES.

*SONIC ARCHIVES
VOL. 21-22.

IT'S THAT DUAL MEMORY
THING WE GOT FROM
RESTORING NICOLE,
AIN'T IT? THE OLD
WORLD'S STARTIN' TO
FADE...

...BUT IT
IS STILL
ZE DIS-
TRACTION.

I AM WONDER-
ING, IN ZE OLD
WORLD, DID WE
COMPLETE EACH
OTHER'S
THOUGHTS SO
OFTEN?

"WE?"
YER THE ONE
INTERRUPTIN'
ME!

HEY, GUYS?
LESS TALKING...

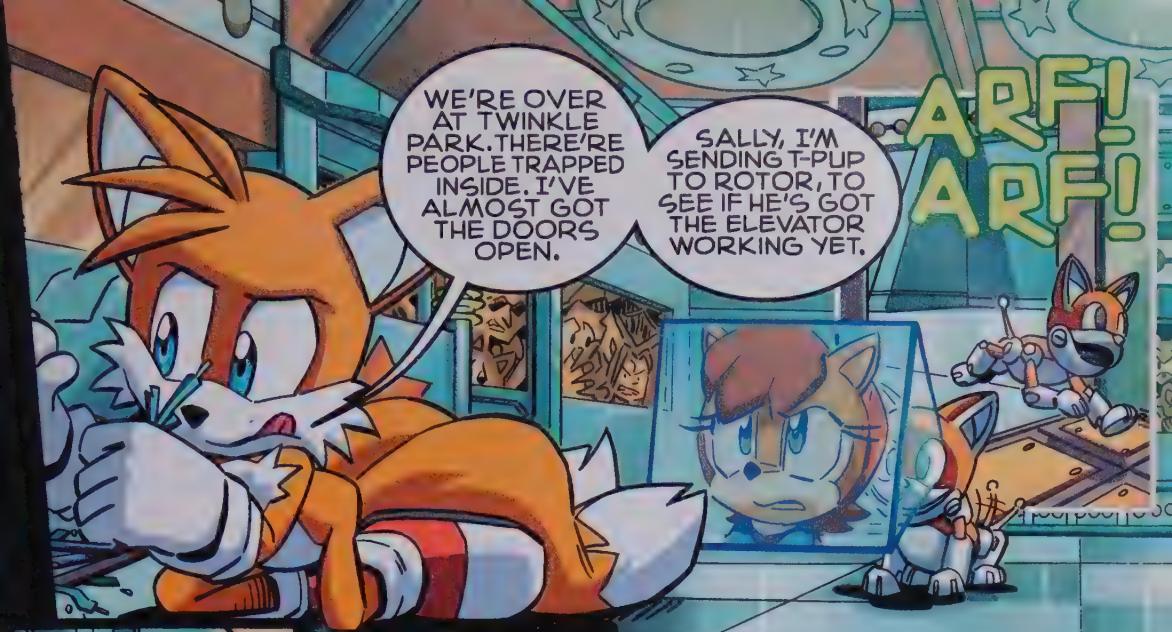
...MORE
RESCUING
PEOPLE,
'KAY?

ZUT
ALORS!
OF
COURSE!

WHERE TO NEXT,
SAL? WE *REALLY*
NEED SOME DIREC-
TION HERE.

THERE'S
A CROWD
STRANDED IN
FRONT OF
CASINOPOLIS.

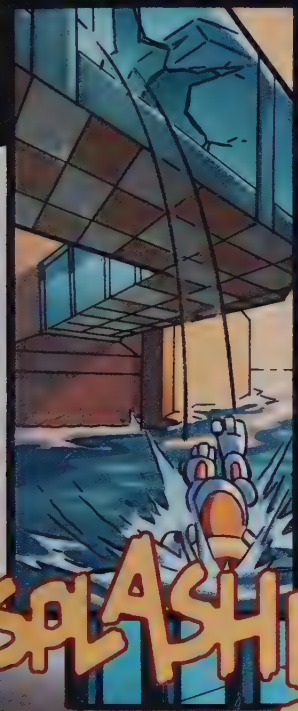
LET'S
BOOK IT!
HOW YOU
DOING,
TEAM
FREEDOM
...?



WE'RE OVER AT TWINKLE PARK. THERE'RE PEOPLE TRAPPED INSIDE. I'VE ALMOST GOT THE DOORS OPEN.

SALLY, I'M SENDING T-PUP TO ROTOR, TO SEE IF HE'S GOT THE ELEVATOR WORKING YET.

ARF!
ARF!



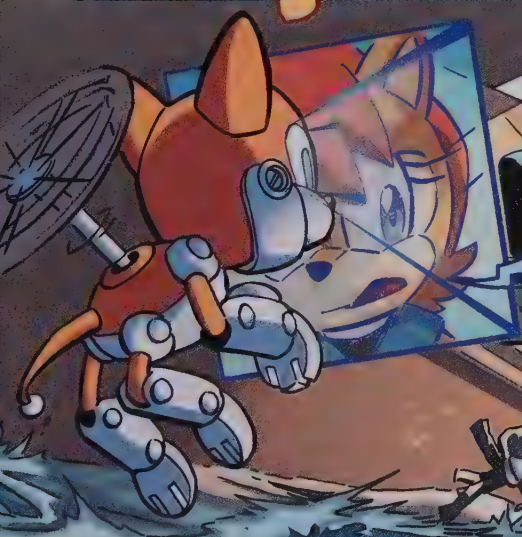
SPLASH!



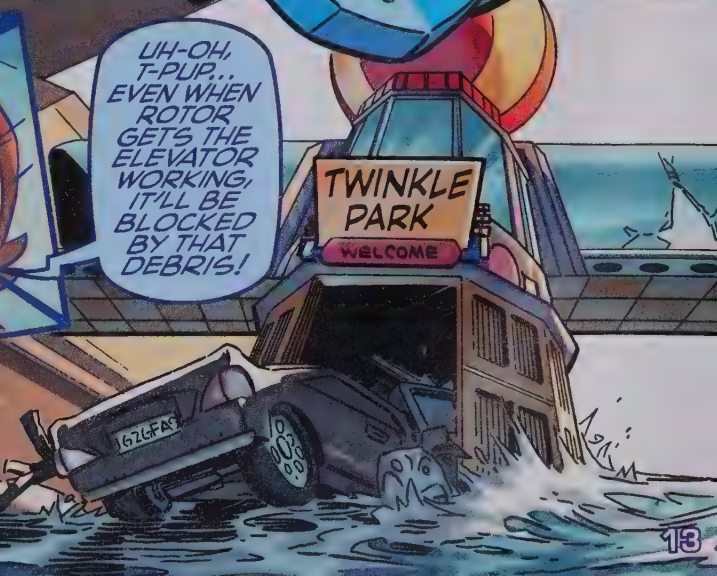
ROTOR? WHAT'S YOUR STATUS?

THUMBS UP!

GREAT, I'LL SEND T-PUP TO SCOUT AHEAD.



UH-OH, T-PUP... EVEN WHEN ROTOR GETS THE ELEVATOR WORKING, IT'LL BE BLOCKED BY THAT DEBRIS!



TWINKLE PARK
WELCOME

NEARBY...

HUP!

IS THAT THE LAST
OF THE PEOPLE
IN THIS AREA?

YER,
FISHING
FOR
PEOPLE IS
WEIRD.

I'M
SURE,
CAN YOU
CLEAR
THE ELE-
VATOR
INTO
TWINKLE
PARK?

OKAY.

HEAD FOR
HIGH GROUND!
GET INSIDE
THE TRAIN
STATION! GO-
GO-GO-GO!

TWINKLE
PARK

WELCOME

ALL
DONE!

PEOPLE ARE MOVING FROM TWINKLE PARK. WHERE ARE WE NEEDED, SALLY?

OH! SORRY, ROTOR.

UM...GET TO THE SEWER ACCESS NEAR CITY HALL.

SEE IF YOU CAN GET THE SEWER LINE TO HANDLE THE FLOODING BETTER.

...AS I WAS SAYING...THERE ISN'T A SINGLE UNAFFECTED SPOT. THE KINGDOM OF ACORN, UNITED FEDERATION, EVEN THE EGGMAN EMPIRE--ALL OF THEM ARE REPORTING CHAOS.

WE BARELY MADE IT TO STATION SQUARE, AND ONLY BECAUSE WE WERE IN THE AREA. HOW AM I GOING TO SAVE EVERYONE...?

EXCUSE ME... MISS SALLY? I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED, BUT...

...EVERYONE'S TRYING THEIR VERY BEST TO HELP OUT, SO... PLEASE DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE TO TAKE ON ALL THE BURDEN ALONE.

CREAM, THIS IS MY RESPONSIBILITY. I *HAVE* TO MAKE AMENDS. I NEARLY KILLED SONIC!*

I ALMOST UNDOED ALL THE WORK THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS BUILT! IF I FAIL THESE PEOPLE...IF I CAN'T MAKE UP FOR...FOR...!

YOU WILL NOT DO THIS NOW.

I...NICOLE?

* 5TH #247 AVAILABLE NOW ON THE SONIC COMICS APP!

WE'RE *ALL* OFF-BALANCE FROM THE DUAL MEMORIES, BUT RIGHT NOW, WE'VE GOT TO MANAGE THIS CRISIS. TO DO THAT, WE *NEED* YOU TO ORGANIZE AND DIRECT US. THERE IS *NOBODY* ELSE WHO CAN COORDINATE US BETTER THAN YOU, YOU INSPIRED DULCY, YOU HELPED OUT LUPE. YOU ARE THE BEST TO LEAD US. WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER, SALLY, YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

YOU'RE RIGHT, AS USUAL. THIS ISN'T ABOUT ME AT ALL.

I KEPT WATCH WHILE YOU WERE TALKING! TEAM FREEDOM OPENED UP A SEWER LINE AND ARE GOING TO HELP PEOPLE TRAPPED IN A SUBWAY CAR! TEAM FIGHTERS ARE MOVING PEOPLE FROM CASINOPOLIS TO THE ROOFTOPS! I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO TELL THEM TO DO, THOUGH!

I'LL HANDLE THINGS FROM HERE.

NICOLE--SEE IF YOU CAN CONFIRM THE SAFETY OF DADDY, VANILLA, AND ALL OUR FRIENDS ABROAD. THEN START MAPPING OUT THE HARDEST-HIT AREAS.

ON IT.

PERFECT REPORT, CREAM. THANK YOU FOR PICKING UP MY SLACK.

DON'T WORRY, YOUR HIGHNESS.

I KNOW THE WORLD WAS CHANGED, AND YOU REMEMBER BAD THINGS HAPPENING... BUT THOSE THINGS ARE GONE NOW.

IF ANYONE IS TO BLAME...

"...IT'S THAT AWFUL
DR. EGGMAN!"

ABOARD THE
DEATH EGG...

ORBOT
SASSY
ASSISTANT

EGGNET
SATELLITE DATA
IS IN--THE PLANET'S
CRUST IS COM-
PLETELY SHATTERED.
MOST OF THE FAULT
LINES ARE ALONG THE
KNOWN TECTONIC
PLATES' BORDERS,
BUT I'M MAPPING
OUT EVERYTHING
NOW.

EGG BOSSES 'ROUND
DA WORLD REPORTIN'
A SPIKE IN DAT WEIRD
ENERGY THAT WAS
SEEPIN' OUTTA THE
GROUND.* Y'KNOW, IN
ADDITION TO ALL THE
PANIC 'N' SUCH.

CUBOT
HAS A
FAULTY
VOICE
CHIP

BAH! AND ON TOP OF IT ALL,
THE FINAL RESULTS ARE IN ON
THE SUPER GENESIS WAVE'S
ENERGY-SHADOW--THERE'S NO
WAY TO UNDO THE REALITY
SHIFT! WHAT A WORLD I'VE
INHERITED!

* 5TH VOL. 1 GN.

WHICH, IF
YOU HADN'T
INTERRUPTED
SUPER SONIC
...**

** WORLDS COLLIDE
VOL. 3 GN.

DR. IVO
"EGGMAN"
ROBOTNIK
THE EGG
EMPEROR

BRING THAT
UP ONE MORE
TIME, AND I'LL
HOLLOW YOU
OUT INTO
MATCHING
SOUP AND
SALAD
BOWLS!

...LIKE
YOU'D EAT
SOUP OR A
SALAD...

HUMPH. I HAVE TO
FIND A WAY TO FIX THE
WORLD WHILE THERE'S
STILL SOME OF IT LEFT
TO FIX. OTHERWISE, I'LL
BE LEFT WITH NOTHING
TO BRUTALLY CONQUER
AND LORD OVER!

EGG1

EGGNET

EGGLE

FULL DATA MINE!
EGGNET, UNITED FED-
ERATION, G.U.N.--ALL
OF THEM, SECURE OR
OTHERWISE, SEARCH
FOR **ANYTHING**
ASSOCIATED WITH
MASSIVE TECTONIC
SHIFTS, STRANGE
ENERGY SIGNATURES
...DOOMSDAY
SCENARIOS...

SORT BY
RELEVANCE,
AAAAAND...
THAT'S IT?
HMM...

"RENOWNED ARCHAEOLO-
GIST AND HISTORICAL
ANTHROPOLOGIST PROF.
DILLON PICKLE HAS BEGUN
TO DECIPHER THE ANCIENT
GAIA MANUSCRIPTS."

PROFESSOR
PICKLE

PROFESSOR
BEGIN
UNCODING
THE GAIA
MANUSCRIPTS

YADDA-YADDA-YADDA--
"...WHICH, ACCORDING TO
PICKLE, CHRONICLE A
CYCLICAL WORLD DESTRU-
CTION-AND-REBIRTH
COSMOLOGY..."HMM...

ARE ANY EGG ARMY
UNITS FREE NEAR
SPAGONIA?

NO,
BOSS, THEY'RE
ALL BUSY SECURING
THEIR TERRITORIES.
I DON'T KNOW IF
YOU'VE HEARD, BUT
THE WORLD HAS
SHATTERED
APART.

SHUT UP!
WHAT ABOUT
BADNIK
HORDES?

E-107
ETA'S
UNIT IS THE
NEAREST.

GOOD. SEND THAT
UNIT TO SPAGONIA
UNIVERSITY. HAVE
THEM GRAB ANY-
THING AND **ANY-
ONE** REMOTELY
RELATED TO PROF.
PICKLE'S RESEARCH
AND BRING THEM
TO ME.

IT'S NOT MUCH,
BUT SINCE IT'S
MY **ONLY** LEAD,
I NEED TO BE
THOROUGH.
THERE **HAS** TO
BE A WAY TO
MANAGE THIS
CRISIS.

MEANWHILE...

OKAY, SERIOUSLY,
THERE'S GOT TO
BE A BETTER WAY
OF MANAGING
THIS CRISIS.

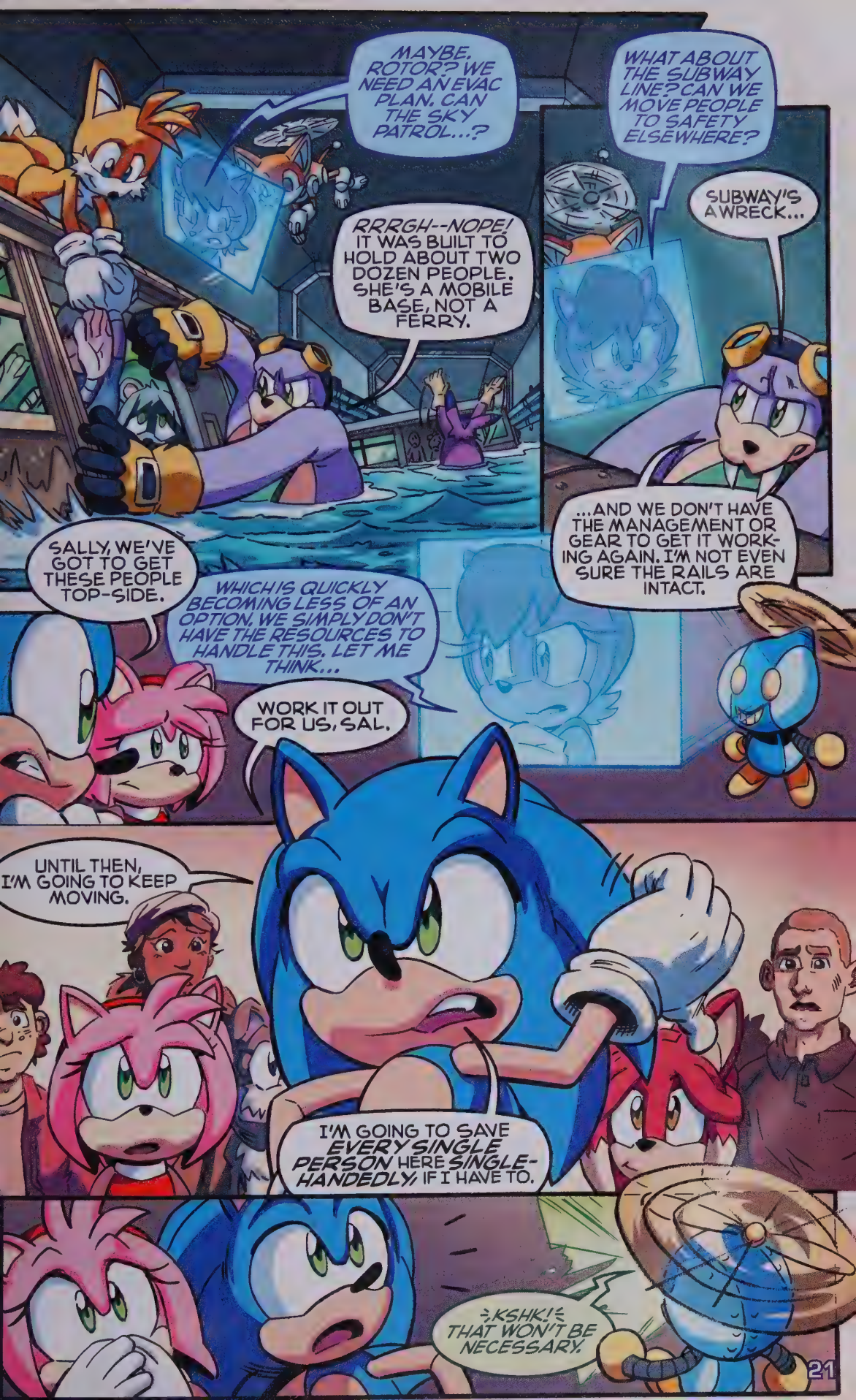
T-PUP?
OMOCHAO?
ANYONE
AROUND
TO HEAR
ME?

'CAUSE I'M
RUNNING OUT OF
ROOFTOP AND
CAN'T REALLY
STOP, SOOOOOO...

...LITTLE
HELP?

SOME-
BODY?!





MAYBE, ROTOR? WE NEED AN EVAC PLAN. CAN THE SKY PATROL...?

WHAT ABOUT THE SUBWAY LINE? CAN WE MOVE PEOPLE TO SAFETY ELSEWHERE?

SUBWAY'S A WRECK...

RRRGH--NOPE! IT WAS BUILT TO HOLD ABOUT TWO DOZEN PEOPLE. SHE'S A MOBILE BASE, NOT A FERRY.

SALLY, WE'VE GOT TO GET THESE PEOPLE TOP-SIDE.

WHICH IS QUICKLY BECOMING LESS OF AN OPTION, WE SIMPLY DON'T HAVE THE RESOURCES TO HANDLE THIS. LET ME THINK...

WORK IT OUT FOR US, SAL.

...AND WE DON'T HAVE THE MANAGEMENT OR GEAR TO GET IT WORKING AGAIN. I'M NOT EVEN SURE THE RAILS ARE INTACT.

UNTIL THEN, I'M GOING TO KEEP MOVING.

I'M GOING TO SAVE EVERY SINGLE PERSON HERE SINGLE-HANDEDLY, IF I HAVE TO.

~KSHKI~ THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY.

ATTENTION,
CITIZENS OF
STATION
SQUARE!

THIS IS
CPT. AMANDA
TOWER OF THE
U.F.A.F. LETTER
OF GABRIEL.
G.U.N. FORCES
ARE BEING
DEPLOYED TO
RESCUE YOU.

PLEASE REMAIN
CALM AND GIVE YOUR
FULL COOPERATION
TO THE G.U.N.
TROOPS AND THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS.
WE WILL PROTECT
YOU. YOU WILL BE
SAFE.

HAIL
THE FREEDOM
FIGHTERS' SHIP--THE
WHATEVER-IT'S-
CALLED.

HELLO? THIS
IS PRINCESS
SALLY ACORN
OF THE SKY
PATROL.

A PLEASURE, YOUR
HIGHNESS. IT LOOKS
LIKE YOU COULD USE
A HAND.

YES!
THANK
YOU!

YOUR
TIMING
COULDN'T
BE
BETTER!

THANK US?
THANK YOU! IF IT
WEREN'T FOR
YOU FREEDOM
FIGHTERS, WE'D
BE DOING CLEAN-
UP INSTEAD OF
RESCUE. KUDOS
FOR EXPERTLY
MANAGING THIS
CRISIS WITH SUCH
A SMALL SQUAD.
YOU MADE A REAL
DIFFERENCE
HERE.

IT'S OKAY,
I... WE WILL
BE OKAY.

~AH~ EXCUSE
ME, WE'RE USED TO
DEALING WITH TEAM
DARK INSTEAD OF
G.U.N. DIRECTLY.

REST ASSURED,
YOUR HIGHNESS,
THEY'RE DOING
THEIR PART TO
PROTECT THE
WORLD.*

*SEE "SHADOW FALL" IN
SONIC UNIVERSE #59-63
AVAILABLE NOW ON THE
SONIC COMICS APP!

LATER...

I'M BEAT, I'LL POWER-NAP EN ROUTE TO THE NEXT CRISIS, THEN...

SHHH!

...AND WE'RE ALL VERY SAFE AND SECURE ON THE SKY PATROL. YOU REALLY OUGHT TO VISIT, MOTHER, IT'S AMAZING!

I'M SURE IT IS, DEAR, YOU STAY CLOSE TO THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND STAY SAFE, GEMERL WILL HELP ME LOOK AFTER CHOCOLA, I LOVE YOU, CREAM.

I LOVE YOU, T-TOO, M-MOM...

THANK YOU, YOUR MAJESTY.

THINK NOTHING OF IT, M'LADY.

I--I'M OKAY... RE-RE-REALLY...

HOW'S THE KINGDOM, DADDY?

IT SEEMS WESTSIDE ISLAND ON A WHOLE WAS SPARED THE WORST.

WHAT HAVE YOU GATHERED ABOUT THE STATE OF THE REST OF THE WORLD?

THANKS TO THE ACCESS CODES SALLY STOLE FROM THE DEATH EGG, X WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO COMPARE DATA FROM THE EGGNET WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD. IT APPEARS THE CHUNKS OF CRUST HAVE STABILIZED--FOR NOW.


AND WHILE THAT'S NICE, WE HAVE NO EXPLANATION AS TO HOW ANYONE CAN BREATHE, OR HOW THE OCEANS STILL FUNCTION, OR WHAT'S KEEPING THE PIECES OF THE WORLD'S CRUST FLOATING.

WE JUST SAVED A CITY, CAN'T WE JUST CHALK IT UP TO "MAGIC"...


...AND CALL IT A DAY?

*STH VOL. 1: COUNTDOWN TO CHAOS.


A SMASHING IDEA, I'D SAY, FOR NOW, AT LEAST. REST UP, HEROES, YOU'LL BE NEEDED MORE THAN EVER. MOBOTROPOLIS SIGNING OFF.




WHOOF! TODAY WAS SO CRAZY, I ALMOST COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT OUR OTHER WORLD...THE CONFLICTING MEMORIES...




...HUH...
ME, TOO.



YOU KNOW...I FEEL BAD SAYING THIS...I FEEL LIKE I SHOULD CARE MORE ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENED, BUT...IT'S ALMOST LIKE HAVING A VIVID DREAM, AND EVEN WHEN YOU WAKE UP... AFTER A LITTLE WHILE...




IT FADES AWAY?
YEAH, I GET YA. BUT LET'S WORRY ABOUT ONE CRISIS AT A TIME, RIGHT?



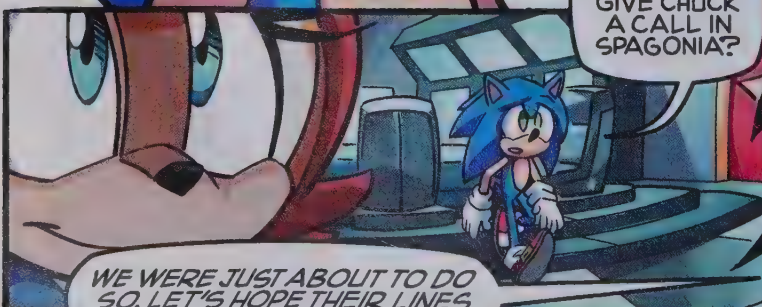
WELL, YEAH, THE SHATTERING PLANET IS IMPORTANT. BUT... YOU'LL STILL REMEMBER EVERYTHING, RIGHT?



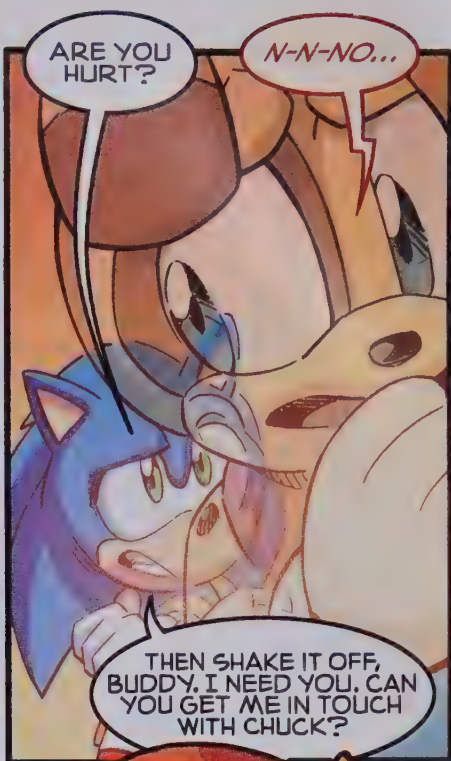
SURE, BUD.
NO WORRIES.



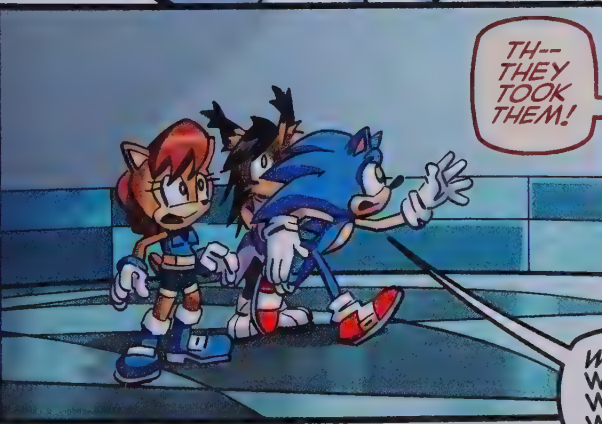
YO, NICOLE!
CAN YOU GIVE CHUCK A CALL IN SPAGONIA?




WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO DO SO. LET'S HOPE THEIR LINES ARE STILL UP.



*5TH VOL. 1 GN.





EGGMAN'S
BADNIKS! THEY
KIDNAPPED THE
PROFESSORS!
PICKLE AND CHUCK!
THEY TOOK THEIR
RESEARCH, THEIR
SAMPLES... *THEY*
TOOK EVERY-
THING!

A WORLD IN A STATE OF CHAOS!

The ONLY MEN with a CLUE on how to FIX IT--MISSING!
Turn the page and see as SONIC seeks them out in

"THE CHASE!"

CHAPTER 2



SOLEANNA
FOREST
ZONE...

"HOURS AGO,
DR. EGGMAN
SENT A BADNIK
HORDE TO
SPAGONIA
UNIVERSITY.

"THE BADNIKS
RAIDED THE
OFFICES FOR
DOCUMENTS,
SCIENTIFIC
SAMPLES..."

WOO-
HOO! HERE
WE GO!

"...AND RE-
SEARCHERS.
THEY TOOK
UNCLE CHUCK
AND HIS COLLEAGUE
...PROF. PICKLE.

"THANKS TO
THE ACCESS
CODES I
'BORROWED'
FROM THE DEATH
EGG,* WE KNOW
THEY'RE BEING
TRANSPORTED FOR
PICK-UP AT THE
BULLET STATION IN
RAIL CANYON ZONE.

"FREEDOM
FIGHTERS --
WE ARE NOT
LETTING EGGMAN
GET AWAY WITH
THIS.

THE CHASE: PART ONE



"TEAM FREEDOM
WILL COVER
THE RESCUE."

AHH...
THE WIND IN
MY SPINES...
IT'S ALMOST
LIKE WE'RE
GOING FAST--
HEH-HEH!



"TAILS AND ANTOINE--
YOU'LL TAKE SONIC AND
AMY DOWN ON THE
TORNADO AND TWISTER.
YOU TWO WILL WHISK THE
PROFESSORS TO SAFETY."

"PARDON,
BUT...WELL,
ABOVE ZE
TREES,
OUI?"



"SORRY, ANTOINE.
YOU NEED TO BE
WITHIN IMMEDIATE
STRIKING DISTANCE.
YOU AND TAILS ARE ACE
PILOTS. I KNOW YOU
CAN HANDLE IT!"

"I'LL LEAD TEAM
FIGHTERS TO
TAKE CONTROL
OF THE TRAIN AND
FIND OUT WHERE THE
POOR PROFESSORS
ARE BEING HELD."


"SURE, IF
YOU
WANT
TO DO
THINGS
THE
SAFE,
SLOW
WAY..."

THEN STAND
BACK, SUGAH.
AH'LL **MAKE** US
A WAY IN!

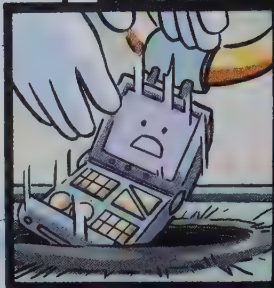
NO GOOD!
THERE'S NO
HATCH CONTROL,
AND THIS
DOESN'T HAVE
ENOUGH JUICE
TO CUT THROUGH
THE ARMOR.

...HUH...WELL, THAT'S
EMBARRASSIN'...

SKROW!



NOT TO WORRY,
BUNNIE. WE CAN
MAKE THIS
WORK.



GENTLY,
PLEASE. MY
COMPO-
NENTS ARE
ONE-OF-A-
KIND.

THUNK!

SORRY, BUT NO ONE
ELSE WOULD FIT! CAN
YOU TAKE CONTROL
OF THE TRAIN'S
SYSTEMS?

IT'S RUNNING
ON THE STANDARD
EGG-OS. I CAN
GET IN, BUT IT
WILL TAKE A FEW
MINUTES.

HURRY.
WE DON'T
KNOW WHAT
THIS THING
HAS FOR
DEFENSES.

I THINK
I HAVE
AN IDEA.

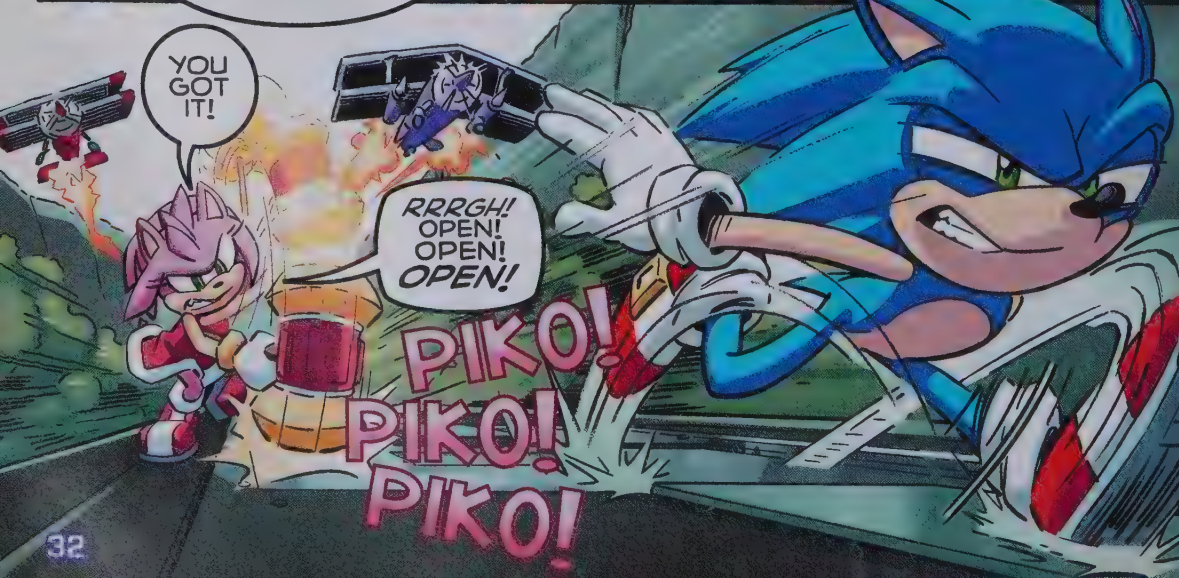
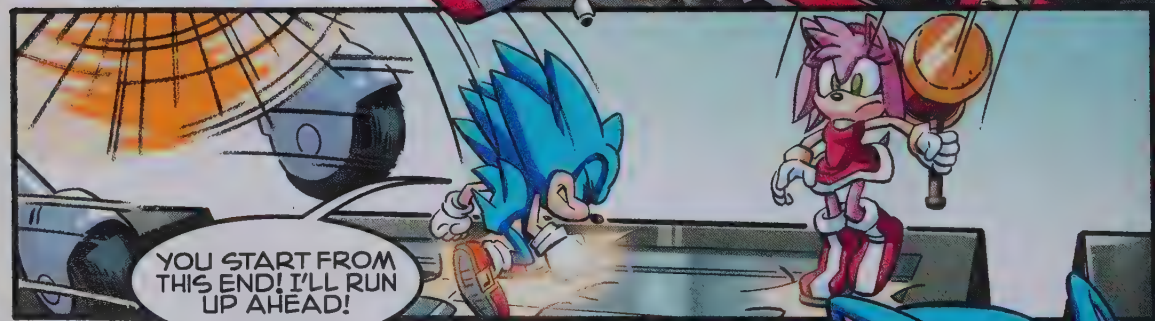
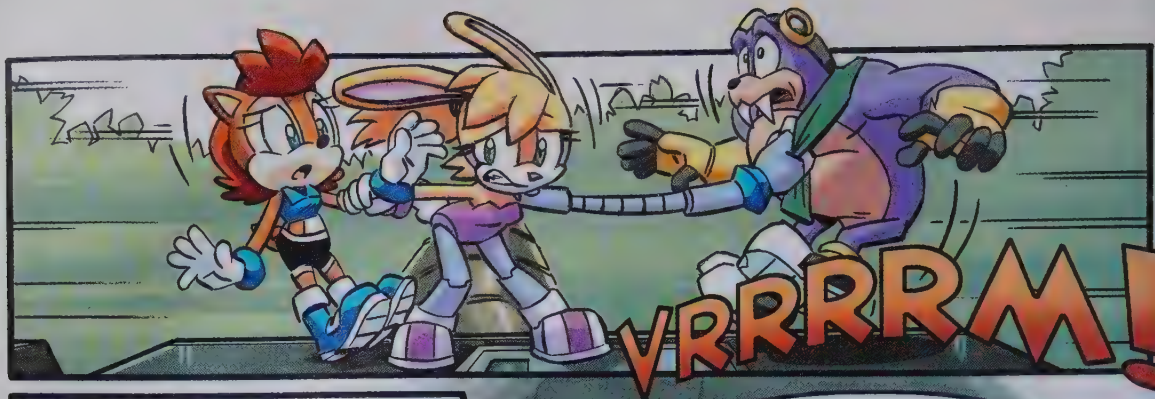
E-106 ETA
HORDE
COMMANDER

PSST

KA-THUNK!

I-I DON'T
SUPPOSE
YOU'RE ONE
OF THOSE
ROGUE
BADNIKS
ON *OUR*
SIDE...?

SMASH!





TERRIBLY
SORRY, CHARLES.
I'M AFRAID I LOST
MY BALANCE FOR
A MOMENT.

MMPH! NOT
YOUR FAULT,
DILLON! THE
TRAIN LURCHED!

OOF!

PROF. PICKLE
HE'S BRILLIANT--
NO, REALLY!

PROF. CHARLES
A.K.A. "UNCLE
CHUCK"

IN FACT, IT
FEELS LIKE WE'RE
ACCELERATING
TO DANGEROUS
SPEEDS.

THESE ACCOMMODATIONS
ARE BEASTLY! AND I ORDERED
MY LUNCH HOURS AGO!
HONESTLY, HOW DIFFICULT IS IT
TO PREPARE A PROPER
CUCUMBER SANDWICH, I ASK
YOU?

HMPH! I
SHALL HAVE
A WORD WITH
THE CON-
DUCTOR. THIS
IS NO WAY TO
RUN A RAIL-
ROAD.

CALM DOWN, OLD
FRIEND. HOPEFULLY,
THIS MEANS WE'RE
ABOUT TO BE
RESCUED.

I SHOULD HOPE
SO! COME, HELP
ME FIND THE CALL
BUTTON FOR THE
STEWARD.

KA-THUNK!



GIVE ME YOUR HAND!

E-100 UNIT!

I'M UNDER ATTACK!

GET ME OUT OF HERE!



TAKE ME!

KA-THUNK!



THANK YOU, SALLY.

ARE YOU OKAY?

I'M FINE--BUT I'M AFRAID THE TRAIN'S CONTROLS ARE DESTROYED. HOWEVER --I CAN CONFIRM THE PROFESSORS ARE ABOARD THE TRAIN. ALSO, WHILE THE DOORS BETWEEN CARS ARE SEALED, I SAW THAT THE INDIVIDUAL CEILING HATCHES ARE LESS ARMORED.

SO THERE'S NO WAY TO STOP THE TRAIN OR QUICKLY SEARCH THE CARS.

NO, AND FURTHER-MORE...



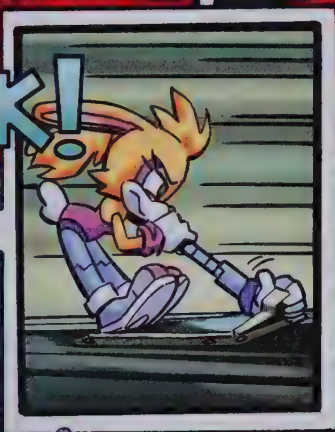
...THE E-100
UNIT DOES
NOT SEEM
TO CARE
ABOUT
COLLATERAL
DAMAGE.

KA-THUNK!

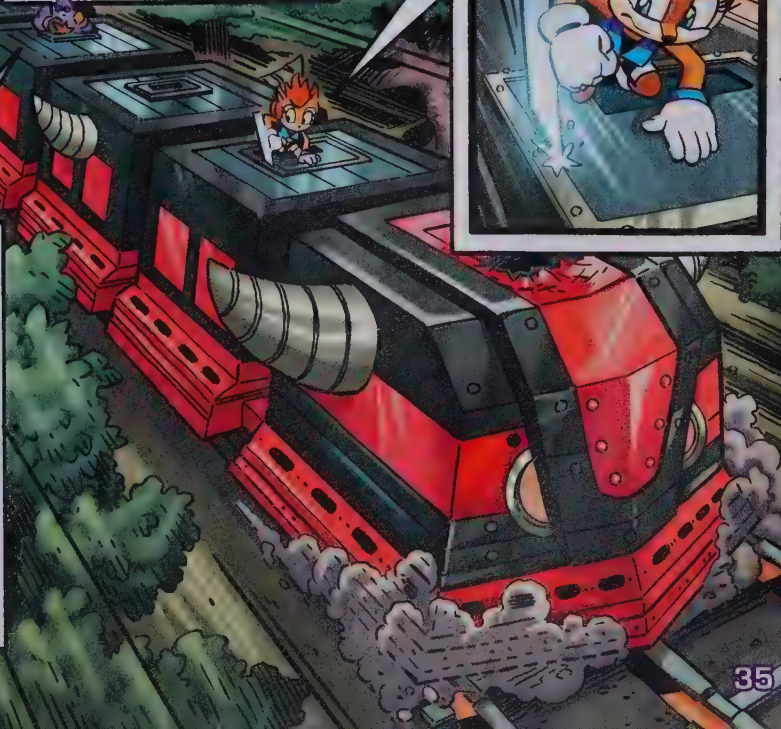
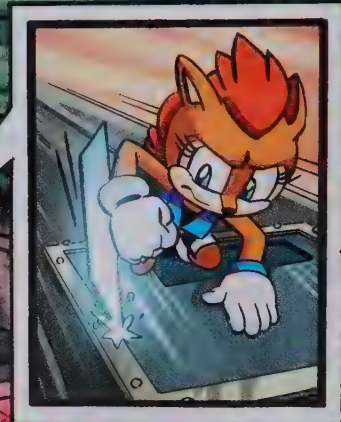


SO MUCH FOR
FINESSE. WE'RE
GOING CAR-BY-
CAR NOW, TEAM
FIGHTERS!

HUSTLE!
WE NEED TO
FIND THE
PROFESSORS
AND GET OUT
OF HERE BEFORE
THE BADNIK
GETS US, OR...

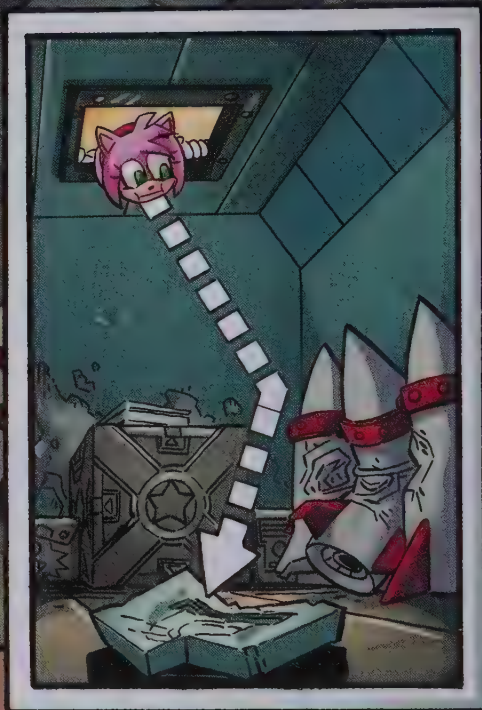


"... BEFORE
THIS CRAZY
TRAIN JUMPS
THE RAILS!"



HA!
OPEN
SAYS-A
ME!

PIKOI!

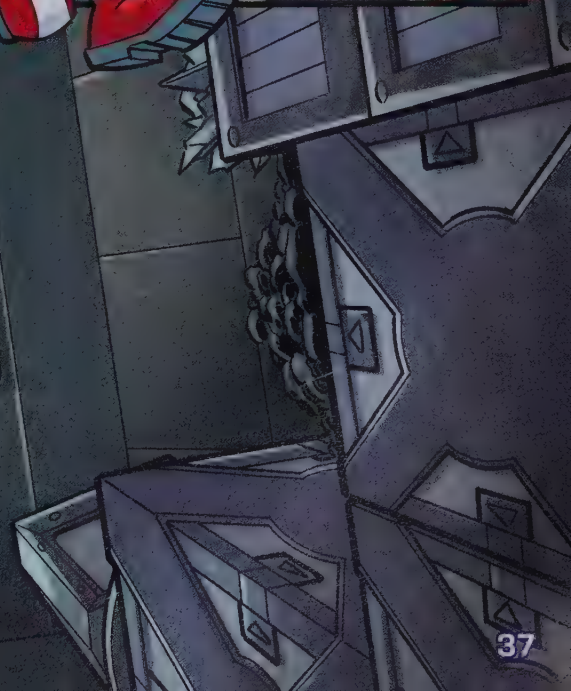
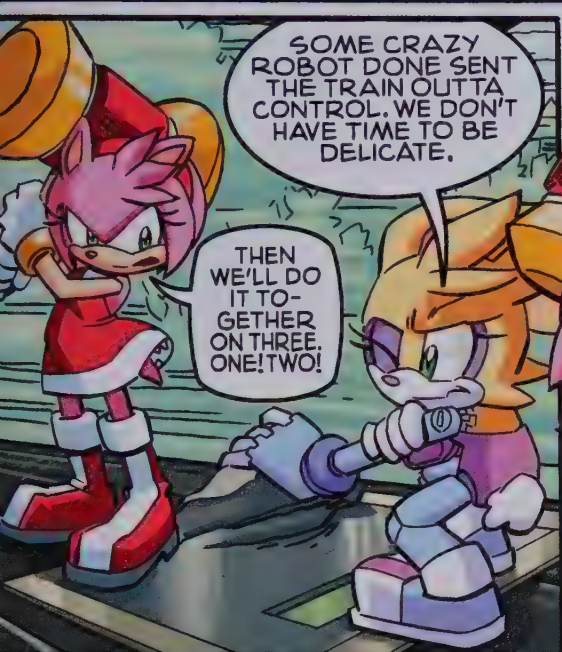
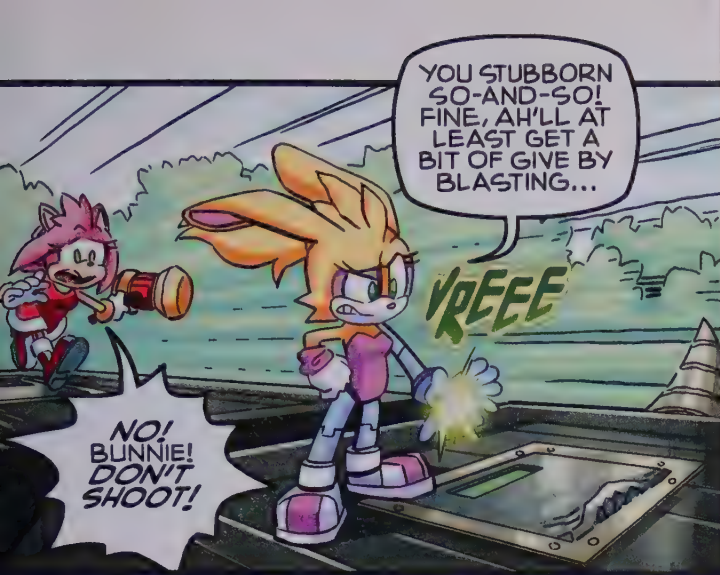


O-O-KAY! WE'RE GOING
TO BE *MUCH* MORE DELICATE
WITH THE NEXT CAR! YES!
AND WE DON'T NEED TO TELL
ANYONE THAT WE NEARLY
BLEW US ALL UP!

DO
WE
?

NO! OF
COURSE
NOT!

HA
HA HA-
ARGH...







SMASHIN'
INTO
RANDOM
CARS!
SMASHIN'
INTO
RANDOM
CARS!

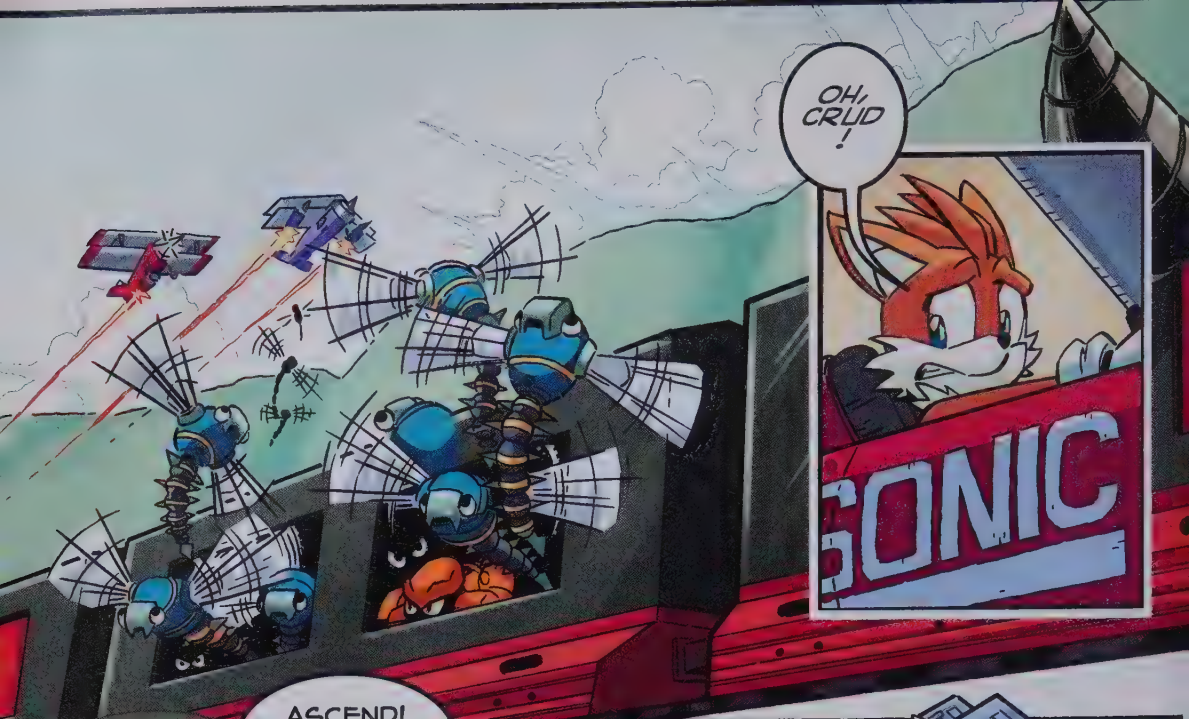
--IN
THE WRONG
CAR.

I'VE GOT A
GOOD FEELING
ABOUT THIS ONE!
HOLD ON, CHUCK!
I'M--



MY BAD! YOU
GUYS CAN GO
BACK TO SLEEP
...OR STAND BY...
OR WHATEVER IT
IS BADNIKS DO.
I KNOW THE WAY
OUT, SO I'LL
JUST--





OH,
CRUD!

SONIC

ASCEND!
EVASIVE
MANEUVERS!

GYEEP!



OH, GEEZ,
REALLY?



BUNNIE!
HELP THE
TORNADO
AND TWISTER
WITH AIR
SUPPORT!

AH'M
ON MY
WAY!



AMY! MOVE UP AND HELP US WITH THE BADNIKS!

WHAT?!

REMIND ME AGAIN WHY I DIDN'T HAVE OMOCHAO AND T-PUP COORDINATING COMMS?

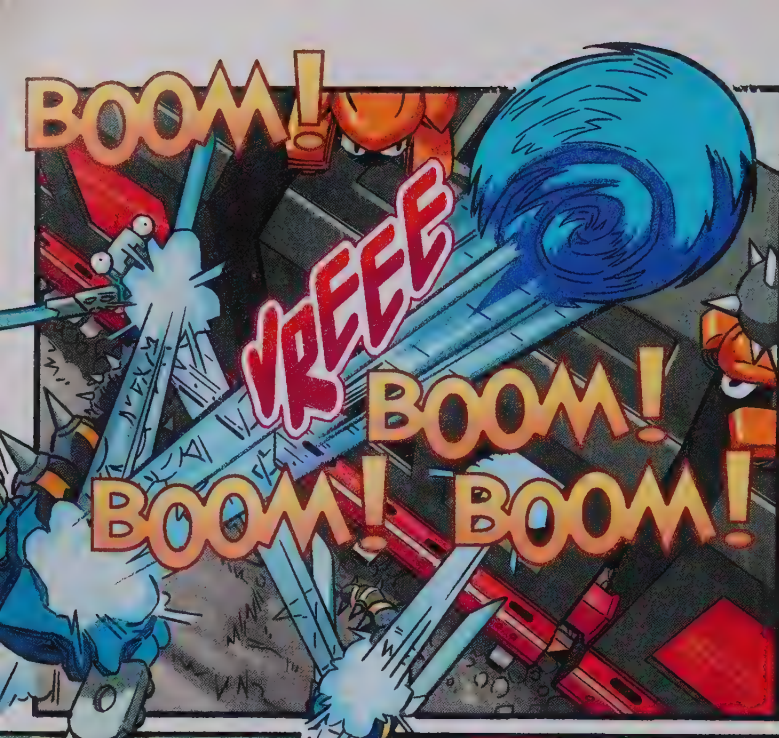
BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T FLY FAST ENOUGH TO KEEP UP WITH THE TRAIN.

RIGHT, REMIND ME TO GET YOU AND TAILS TO BUILD US SOME HEAD SETS BEFORE THE NEXT MISSION.

CAN WE WORRY ABOUT THIS MISSION FIRST?!

PIKO!
PIKO!
PIKO!

NOW! ~~HUFF~~ WHAT DID YOU ~~HUFF~~ WANT?



HEH-HEH-WHEW!
YOU SHOULD'VE
JUST LET ME
WALK AWAY. WELL,
NOT "WALK." I
DON'T WALK, BUT
YOU KNOW WHAT
I--







STICK WITH
SAL AND ROTE.
I NEED TO
MOVE FAST.

HMPH!
FINE!



IT LOOKS LIKE
THAT LAST
TURN DID US A
FAVOR AND GOT
RID OF THE
BADNIKS!

STILL--WE'RE
PLAYING IT
SAFE! I'LL STAY
ON MY AIR-
BOARD AND
ACT AS YOUR
SAFETY NET!



I'LL WEAKEN THE
HATCH WITH MY OMNI-
TOOL! THEN AMY CAN
BUST IT OPEN!

'KAY! MAN--
I HOPE
BUNNIE AND
THE OTHERS
ARE HAVING
AN EASIER
TIME!



CLANK!

THE PROFESSORS
BETTER BE IN THIS
CAR...

WHAT WAS
THAT?!

I DON'T
KNOW.



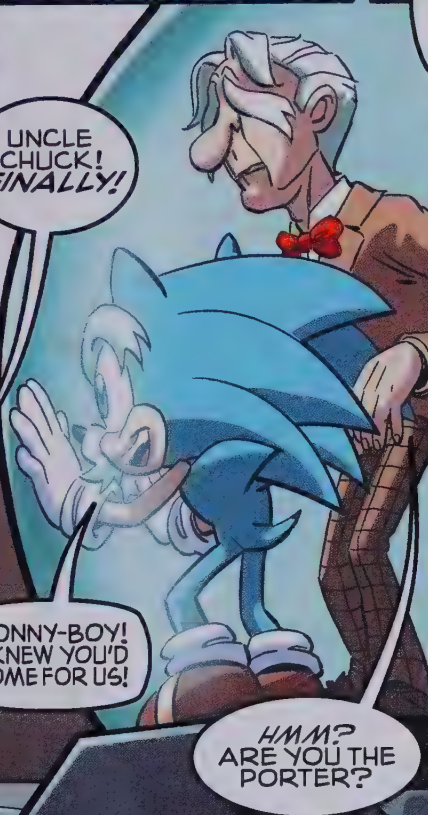
KATHUNK!

NICOLE SAID ALL THE
PASSAGES BETWEEN
CARS WERE LOCKED
DOWN. MAYBE THE
STRAIN IS STARTING TO
TEAR THE TRAIN
APART?



C'MON,
PROFESSORS!
C'MON, NO
BADNIKS!

UNCLE
CHUCK!
FINALLY!

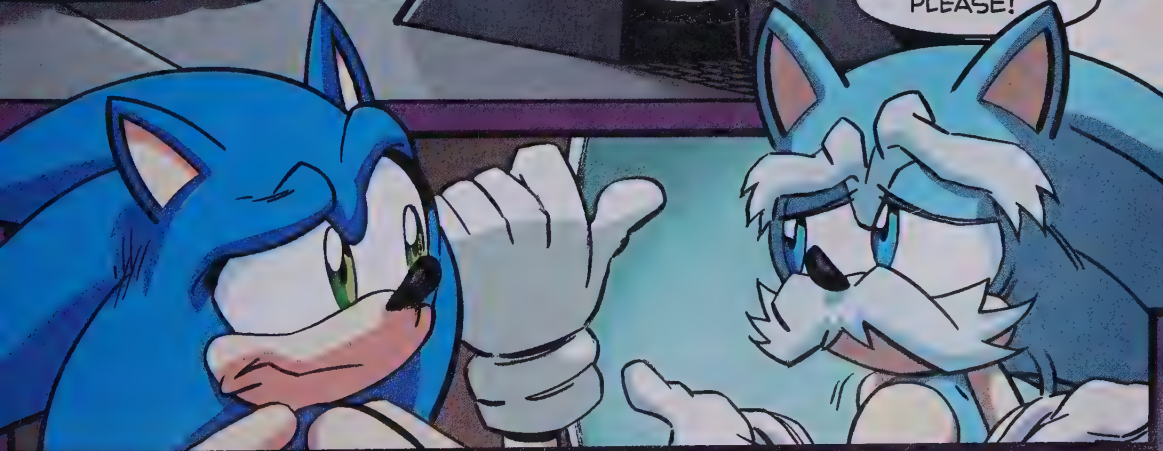


SONNY-BOY!
I KNEW YOU'D
COME FOR US!

HMM?
ARE YOU THE
PORTER?



I'LL HAVE YOU
KNOW I AM *QUITE*
DISPLEASED WITH
THE SERVICE ON
THIS TRAIN. I WILL
HAVE A CUCUMBER
SANDWICH POST-
HASTE, IF YOU
PLEASE!



HANG TIGHT, BRAINIACS.
I'LL FIGURE OUT THE
BEST WAY TO BUST YOU
OUT.

HURRY,
SONIC!

I KNOW, I KNOW.
THIS TRAIN IS
OUT OF CONTROL.

NO, I--WELL, YES, THAT.
BUT IT'S ABOUT THE
PLANET! DILLON'S RE-
SEARCH--THE GAS SAMPLES
I WAS TAKING IN WOOD
ZONE--THEY ALL TIE TO-
GETHER INTO SOMETHING
BIGGER!

SERIOUSLY? THE
WORLD SHATTER-
ING APART ISN'T
COMPLICATED
ENOUGH?

*STH VOL. 1 GN.

KA-THUNK!

AH!
THAT
MUST
BE THE
LUNCH
CART.

KA-THUNK!

QANG!



GONNA HAVE
TO PUT THAT
LUNCH ORDER
ON HOLD,
PROFESSOR.

CHAPTER 3



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 259
COVER BY TRACY YARDLEY


OLEANNA
FOREST ZONE.

ABOARD A BULLET TRAIN
BOUND TO RAIL CANYON
ZONE...



SWING
AND A
MISS!

KACHON!



CAREFUL, SONIC! THAT'S ONE OF EGG-MAN'S SUPER-BADNIKS!

YEAH-YEAH-YEAH, I'VE TANGLED WITH THESE E-100 MOOKS BEFORE.*

CLANG!

*SONIC ADVENTURE DX & SONIC HEROES--THE GAMES.

I'M GUESSING YOU'RE NOT GOING TO RANDOMLY "TURN GOOD," HUH?

KA-THUNK!

Y'KNOW, I WOULDN'T MIND SOME BACKUP FROM MY TEAM!

HE DEVOTED
AN ENTIRE
TRAIN CAR TO
A FOOSBALL
TABLE?

OH, GROSS!
THE FOOSBALL
IS SHAPED LIKE
SONIC'S HEAD!

GUYS?
I THINK
I HEAR FIGHT-
ING IN THE NEXT
CAR...

SCREEEECH!

IT DOESN'T
MATTER IF THIS
TRAIN IS EGGMAN-
TECH. IF WE HIT
ANOTHER TURN
LIKE THAT AT THIS
SPEED, WE'RE ALL
TOAST.

LET'S
HURRY.

HOPEFULLY,
WHAT I
HEARD WAS
SONIC
CLEARING
OUT THE
DEFENSES
FOR US.

SPEAKING OF
WHICH... SALLY
TO AIR SUPPORT.
TAILS? ANTOINE?
BUNNIE? DOES
ANYBODY
COPY?

IN THE SKIES
ABOVE...

THE TORNADO
SOUPED-UP
BIPLANE

BIAM! BIAM!
BIAM!

THANKS,
BUNNIE!

SHO' NUFF,
SUGAR.

WE'RE DEALIN' WITH A
SWARM OF BADNIKS,
SALLY-GIRL, AND AH'M
ABOUT ALL TUCKERED
OUT.

COPY THAT, BLUNNIE.
DON'T OVEREXERT
YOURSELF, TORNADO
AND TWISTER
--TAKE CARE OF THE
BADNIKS ON THE
DOUBLE. I THINK
WE'VE FOUND THE
PROFESSORS, SO
WE'RE GOING TO NEED
A PICK-UP SOON!

KATHUNKITA-KATHUNKITA-KATHUNKITA!

THAT'S IT, SONNY-BOY! RUN RINGS AROUND IT!

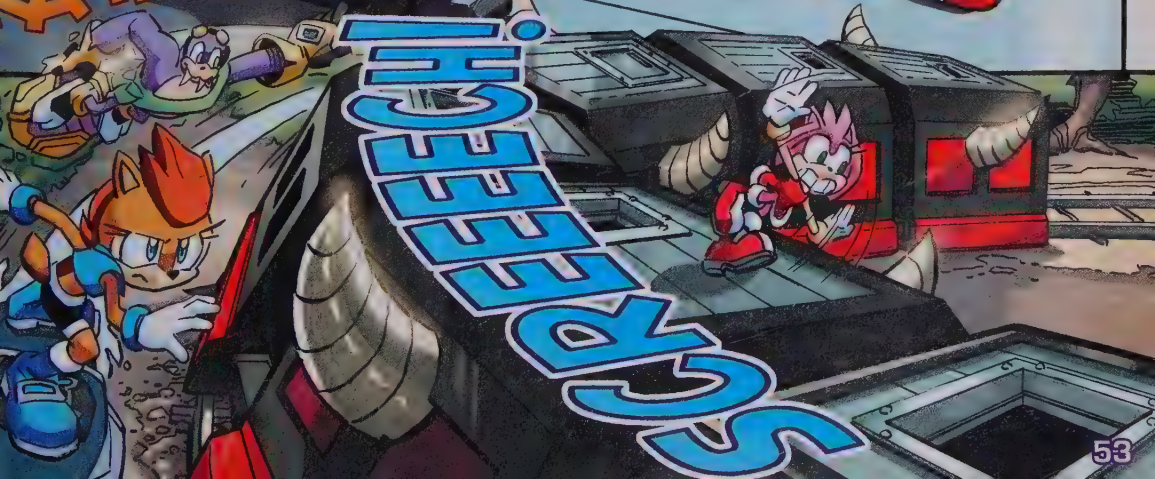
GRACIOUS! SUCH A SURLY MECHANICAL PORTER! DO NOT TIP HIM, W'BOY!

IF I DON'T TAKE THIS THING OUT NOW, IT'S GOING TO PUNCH THIS TRAIN CAR TO PIECES...

BUT I'VE GOT NO ROOM TO GET ANY MOMENTUM!

AND IF I GET TOO RECKLESS, CHUCK AND THE OLD DUDE MIGHT GET SMASHED BY THIS CRAZY--

KATHUNK!





CHARLES?
MY WORD...
CHARLES!
WAKE UP!

CLONK!

UNCLE
CHUCK?!

KA-THUNK!

THAT'S IT!
YOU WANNA
PLAY ROUGH?!
I'M GONNA--!



PIKO!

GOOD WORK, SONIC! KEEP THAT THING BUSY WHILE WE GET THE PROFESSORS!



RRRRGH...



...RIGHT...



PIKO!

KATHUNK!



CROQUET SPECIAL!

COMIN' RIGHT UP!

VEE-VEE-VEE-!

WHAM!

PIKO!

WHOA...THE "GLASS" IS A MORPHOGENIC SEMI-SOLID COMPOUND THAT...

FOCUS ON THE MISSION, PLEASE!

WHOOOPS! MY BAD! I'VE GOT YOU, UNCLE CHUCK!

RIGHT THIS WAY, PROFESSOR!

AH! FINALLY--SOME COURTEOUS SERVICE LEAD THE WAY MY DEAR

AWESOME! WE'VE MANAGED TO MAKE IT MAD!

ARGH! ZERO WASN'T THIS ANNOYING!*

*E-100 ALPHA--SONIC ADVENTURE DX: THE GAME.



SHRIP!

BUT YOU'LL MISS ALL THE FUN!

AHHH! I CAN'T WATCH!

PIKO!

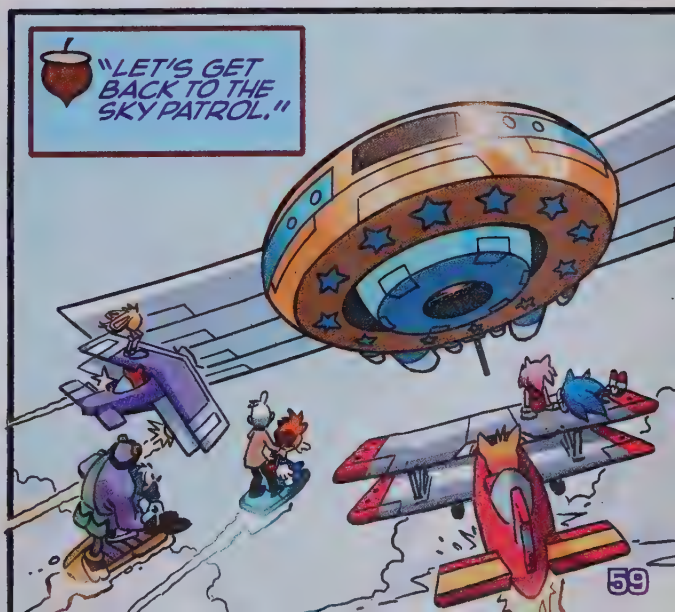
KATHUNK!

THAT... WAS... NERVE-WRACKING!

AND YET YOU'RE STANDING ON THE WINGS OF A PLANE.

I... BUT... SHUT UP!

HAHAHA!



SHORTLY...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "WE LOST YOUR STUFF"?!



PRECISELY WHAT I SAID, W'BOY.

YOU FAILED TO RECOVER ALL THE RESEARCH MATERIAL I'D ACQUIRED, AS WELL AS ALL THE SAMPLES CHARLES HAD COLLECTED.

OH, SO YOU DIDN'T THINK TO BRING IT UP WHILE I WAS BUSY SAVING YOUR LIVES ?!



YOU WERE QUITE INVOLVED WITH YOUR FISTICUFFS. IT WOULD'VE BEEN RUDE TO INTERRUPT. FROM THERE, IT MUST HAVE... M.M.M, SLIPPED MY MIND.


MY EXCUSE IS THAT I WAS UNCONSCIOUS.

AND THIS GUY'S SUPPOSED TO BE A "GENIUS," FOLKS...



SONIC.

PROFESSOR PICKLE --WHAT WAS IT YOU WERE RESEARCHING? WHAT DID DR. EGGMAN WANT WITH YOU?



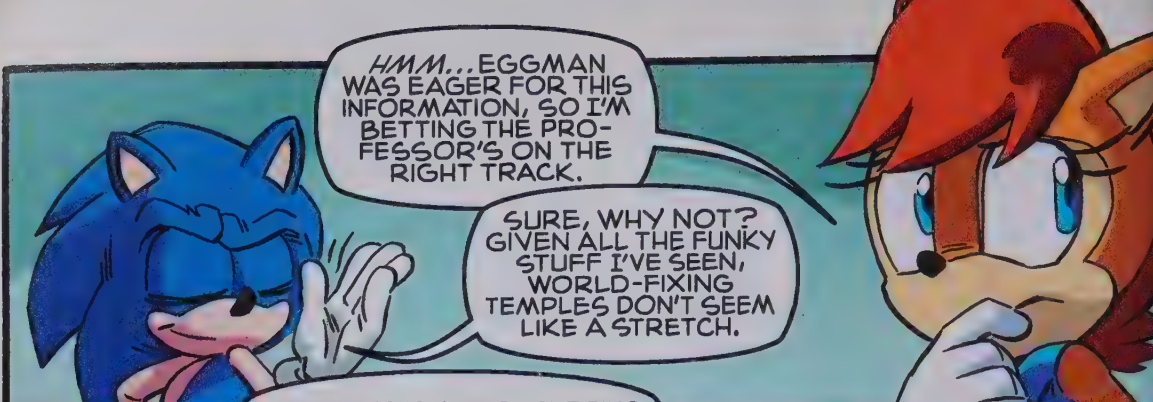
AH, WELL... I HAD
NEARLY COMPLETED
DECODING THE
**GAIA MANU-
SCRIPTS.**

TO PUT IT SIMPLY,
THEY TELL OF AN
ANCIENT MYTH
REVOLVING AROUND
THE DEATH AND RE-
BIRTH OF OUR WORLD.
EVERY TEN THOUSAND
YEARS, THE WORLD
IS SAID TO SHATTER
APART...

...MUCH LIKE
OUR CURRENT
PREDICAMENT,
MMM?

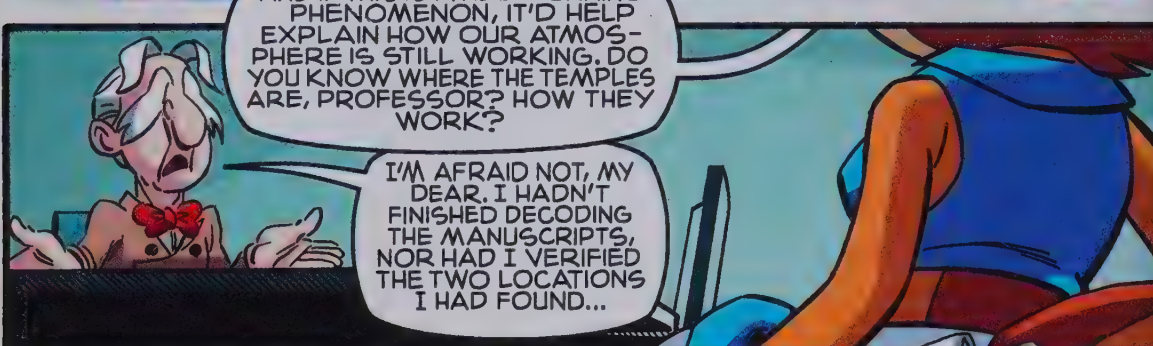
NOW, ACCORDING TO
THE MANUSCRIPTS,
THERE ARE SEVEN
GAIA TEMPLES
LOCATED THROUGH-
OUT THE WORLD.
THEY'RE SAID TO
HAVE SOME SORT OF
CONNECTION TO THE
CHAOS EMERALDS,
SOMEHOW TYING INTO
THEIR POWER.

FROM WHAT I'VE
DECIPHERED, IT SEEMS
THAT WHEN THE CHAOS
EMERALDS ARE
GATHERED AND PLACED
IN THE SEVEN GAIA
TEMPLES, THEY WILL
RESTORE THE WORLD TO
ORDER AND BEGIN THE
PROCESS OF REBIRTH.



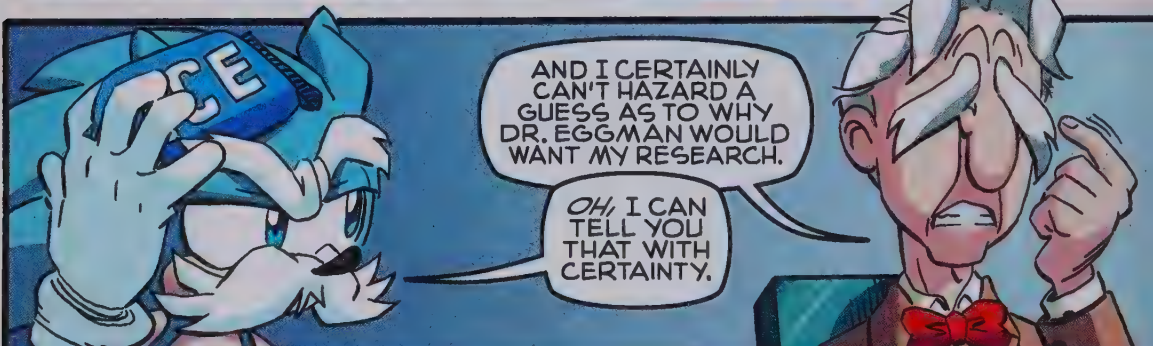
HMM... EGGMAN WAS EAGER FOR THIS INFORMATION, SO I'M BETTING THE PROFESSOR'S ON THE RIGHT TRACK.

SURE, WHY NOT? GIVEN ALL THE FUNKY STUFF I'VE SEEN, WORLD-FIXING TEMPLES DON'T SEEM LIKE A STRETCH.



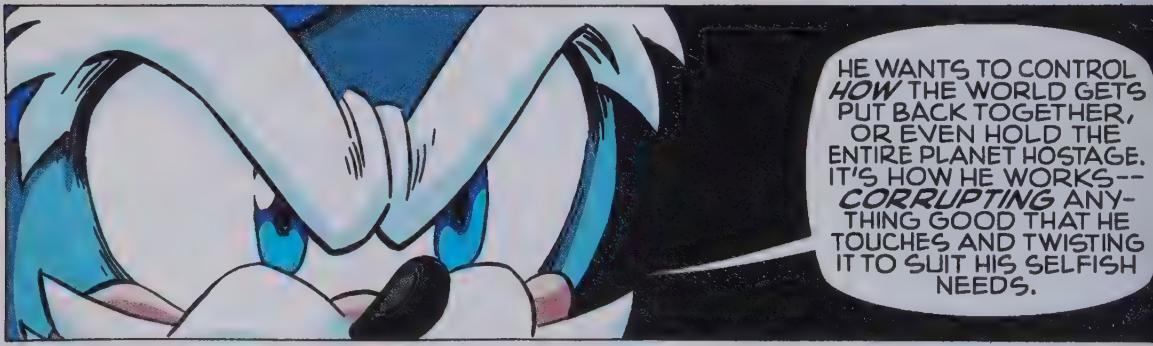
AND IF THIS IS A REOCCURRING PHENOMENON, IT'D HELP EXPLAIN HOW OUR ATMOSPHERE IS STILL WORKING. DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE TEMPLES ARE, PROFESSOR? HOW THEY WORK?

I'M AFRAID NOT, MY DEAR. I HADN'T FINISHED DECODING THE MANUSCRIPTS, NOR HAD I VERIFIED THE TWO LOCATIONS I HAD FOUND...



AND I CERTAINLY CAN'T HAZARD A GUESS AS TO WHY DR. EGGMAN WOULD WANT MY RESEARCH.

OH, I CAN TELL YOU THAT WITH CERTAINTY.



HE WANTS TO CONTROL HOW THE WORLD GETS PUT BACK TOGETHER, OR EVEN HOLD THE ENTIRE PLANET HOSTAGE. IT'S HOW HE WORKS-- **CORRUPTING** ANYTHING GOOD THAT HE TOUCHES AND TWISTING IT TO SUIT HIS SELFISH NEEDS.



AH! LIKE HE DID WITH YOUR ROBOTICIZER?

SIGH
YES, DILLON. LIKE WITH THE ROBOTICIZER.

WELL...IF THE PROFESSOR'S NOTES POINT OUT ONLY TWO OF THE TEMPLES, THAT DOESN'T GIVE EGGMAN THAT MUCH OF A HEAD START.

RIGHT. AND WHILE HE'S CATCHING UP ON HIS READING, **WE** KNOW WHAT WE NEED TO BE LOOKING FOR ALREADY!

BOOYAH!
SEVEN
EMERALDS AND SEVEN
TEMPLES!

WE'VE
GOT THE SKY
PATROL!

WE'VE
GOT THE
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS
BACK TO-
GETHER!

WE'VE GOT
ME! HOW HARD
CAN IT BE?

I'LL GET IN CONTACT
WITH OUR FRIENDS
ABROAD AND GET THEM
TO HELP IN THE SEARCH!
NICOLE CAN SCAN THE
EGGNET FOR ANY
RELATED DATA.

I HATE TO
UNDERCUT YOUR
OPTIMISM, BUT
THERE'S MORE.

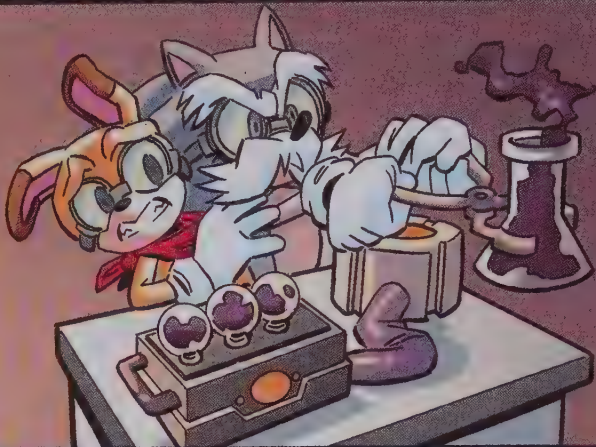
HUH? OH, RIGHT!
SOMETHING ABOUT
THE SAMPLES YOU
TOOK FROM WOOD
ZONE? *

*STH VOL. 1 GN.

DID THE GAIA MANU-
SCRIPTS SAY ANY-
THING ABOUT A SICK-
NESS COMING OUT
OF THE EARTH?

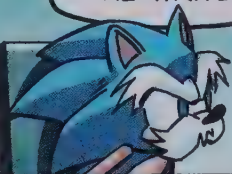
HMM...
ACTUALLY,
I BELIEVE SO!
SOMETHING ABOUT
A "DARK GAIA"
THAT INSTIGATED
CORRUPTION AND
THE SUPPOSED
DESTRUCTION OF
THE WORLD. A
RATHER NASTY,
MALEVOLENT
DEITY.

"WELL, I DON'T KNOW IF ANY EVIL GODS ARE INVOLVED, BUT THE STRANGE, DARK ENERGY SEEPING OUT OF THE GROUND IS SOME NASTY STUFF!"



"JUST A FEW SHORT TESTS PROVED IT WAS HIGHLY DANGEROUS, CORRUPTIVE, AND HAS INCREDIBLE MUTAGENIC PROPERTIES."

WE'RE TALKING THE POSSIBILITY OF TOTAL CELLULAR RE-WRITE.



?

I'M FINE, CHUCK. HONEST.



SIGH ANYWAY-- BEFORE, WITH THE MINOR EARTHQUAKES, IT WAS SEEPING OUT, BUT THE CONCENTRATION SEEMED QUITE LOW.

WE'VE GOT TO FIX THINGS BEFORE WE REACH TOTAL GLOBAL SATURATION.

WITH THE WORLD AS IT IS, IT'S POURING OUT.



ON TOP OF THE WHOLE SHATTERED-WORLD THING.

HEY--IF ANYONE CAN HANDLE THIS KIND OF ADVENTURE, IT'S YOU.

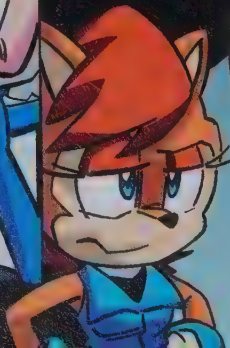


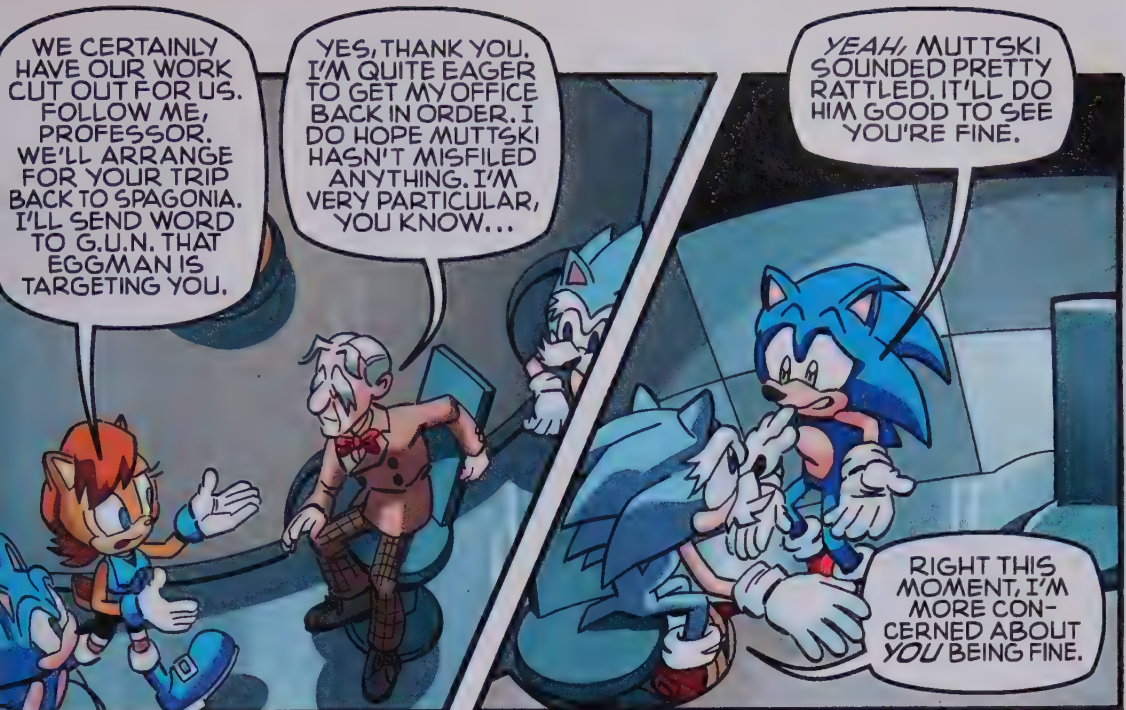
WHY DO I FEEL LIKE YOU'RE PURPOSEFULLY LEAVING ME OUT OF THE LOOP ON SOMETHING?

IT'S NOTHING!



REALLY! WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF OTHER STUFF TO WORRY ABOUT RIGHT NOW, SAL.





WE CERTAINLY HAVE OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US. FOLLOW ME, PROFESSOR. WE'LL ARRANGE FOR YOUR TRIP BACK TO SPAGONIA. I'LL SEND WORD TO G.U.N. THAT EGGMAN IS TARGETING YOU.

YES, THANK YOU. I'M QUITE EAGER TO GET MY OFFICE BACK IN ORDER. I DO HOPE MUTTSKI HASN'T MISFILED ANYTHING. I'M VERY PARTICULAR, YOU KNOW...

YEAH, MUTTSKI SOUNDED PRETTY RATTLED. IT'LL DO HIM GOOD TO SEE YOU'RE FINE.

RIGHT THIS MOMENT, I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT YOU BEING FINE.



I KEEP TELLING YOU --I'M *FINE*! I JUST GOT A FACE FULL OF THE STUFF AND COUGHED IT ALL OUT.

I'VE SEEN GREATER EFFECTS FROM SMALLER DOSES. YOU'RE *SURE* YOU HAVEN'T FELT... *OFF* LATELY?

TH VOL. 1 EN.

THIS CHAPTER!

C'MON, CHUCK! IT'S ME. I CAN HANDLE WHAT-EVER COMES MY WAY.

CHAPTER ONE.

BULLET STATION,
RAIL CANYON
ZONE...

SCREEEECH!

SCREEEECH!

...ON A
POSITIVE
NOTE, IT ARRIVED
ON TIME, HONESTLY,
WE'RE LUCKY THE
TRACKS STAYED IN-
TACT, CONSIDERING
THE STATE OF
THE PLANET.

JUST GET ME
AN INVENTORY
OF WHAT WAS
LOST!

SHORTLY...



THE GOOD NEWS IS YOUR MUNITIONS AND FUEL SUPPLIES ARRIVED INTACT.

AND THE BAD NEWS?



...TOTAL LOSS OF THE BADNIK UNITS, ALL YOUR FOOD PROVISIONS SPOILED, YOU LOST BOTH CAPTIVES, AND YOUR CUSTOM-ORDER FOOSBALL TABLE SHALL FOOS NO MORE.



...AND YET YOU'RE NOT THROWING A TANTRUM.

FOOD CAN BE REPLACED, AND SONIC CAN HAVE THOSE WHITE-HAIRED IGNORAMUSES.



I GOT WHAT *REALLY* MATTERS.

LATER--EFRYKA
EGG BASE...

SIR!
DR. EGGMAN
ON THE LINE
FOR YOU!

NOW
WHAT?

AXEL
THE WATER BUFFALO
REGIONAL EGG BOSS

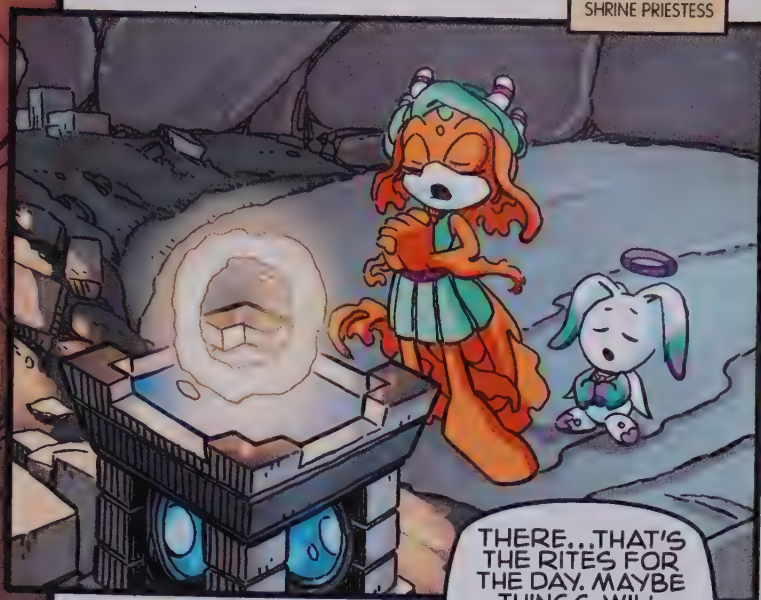
YES, SIR?
UH-HUH. UH-
HUH. WILL DO,
SIR. NO, YES,
I UNDERSTAND.
COMPLETELY
UNDERSTAND.
UH-HUH. THANK
YOU, SIR.

WHAT WAS
THAT ABOUT?
HE SOUNDED
SO URGENT!

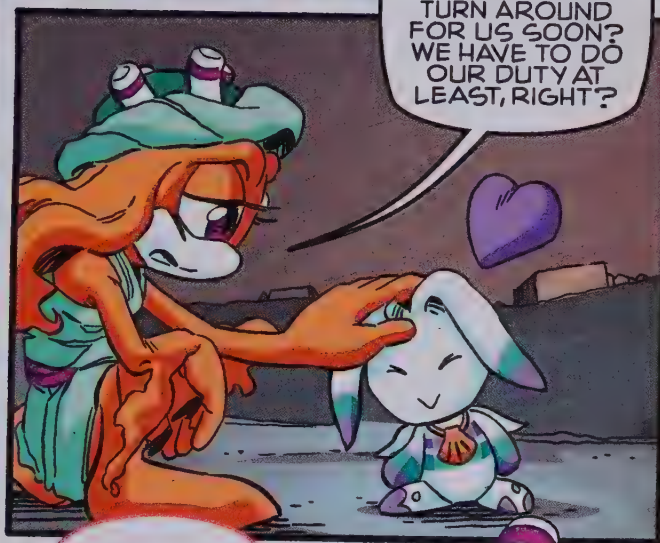
PLH, WHO
KNOWS? WE'RE
UNDER STRICT
ORDERS TO
DEFEND THIS
BASE NO
MATTER
WHAT.

"APPARENTLY HE'S
FOUND SOME NEW
FASCINATION WITH
ANCIENT
TEMPLES..."

MEANWHILE,
MILES AWAY...



THERE... THAT'S
THE RITES FOR
THE DAY. MAYBE
THINGS WILL
TURN AROUND
FOR US SOON?
WE HAVE TO DO
OUR DUTY AT
LEAST, RIGHT?



PRIESTESS...

H-
HELLO
...?

THE WORLD IS IN
GRAVE DANGER.
GREAT **HEROES**
MAY CROSS YOUR
PATH SOON, AND
THEY MAY NEED
YOUR HELP IN
ORDER TO SAVE
EVERYONE...

THE **CHASE** IS OVER
—BUT THE **RACE** IS ON!
WHERE ARE THE **CHAOS EMERALDS**?
WHERE ARE THE **GAIA TEMPLES**?
THE SEARCH BEGINS NEXT TIME
IN **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG VOL. 3:
WAVES OF CHANGE!**



CHAPTER 4



FREE COMIC BOOK DAY 2014
COVER BY TRACY YARDLEY



SAL!

GET
DOWN!

ABOARD THE
SKY PATROL
--TRAINING
SIMULATOR

HAHAHAHAHA

YO, NICOLE!
THIS EXERCISE IS
SUPPOSED TO BE
"CHALLENGING,"
NOT "MENTALLY
SCARRING!"

SONIC COMIC ORIGINS
SALLY--THE
EXILED LEADER

Uh-HUH.
THANKS FOR
THE SAVE.



NO PROB. WE DO THIS SORT OF THING ALL THE TIME.

IT CERTAINLY SEEMS LIKE IT!

EXCEPT I KNOW WE HAVEN'T. I REMEMBER THE SIMPLER TIMES--TIMES OF PEACE...



"GROWING UP, YOU'D NEVER KNOW MY FATHER WAS A KING. WE LAUGHED AND PLAYED FOR HOURS ON END. I WAS NEVER LONELY--NEVER AFRAID..."

"AT THE SAME TIME, I KNEW I WAS A PRINCESS."




ZZZ...? ROSIE? YAWN WHAT'S WRONG...?

"I KNEW THERE WOULD COME A TIME WHEN I'D HAVE TO TAKE ON CERTAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES..."

"BUT I NEVER EXPECTED I'D HAVE TO LEAD SO YOUNG--SO EARLY."

HUSH NOW, WEE PRINCESS. WE NEED TO HURRY!



"MY FATHER HAD BEEN BETRAYED BY HIS ADVISOR-- THE MAN WHO WE'VE COME TO KNOW AS DR. EGGMAN."



"DADDY AND THE ROYAL WIZARD, NAUSEOUS, HAD BEEN TRICKED AND BANISHED TO THE SPECIAL ZONE."



"WE FLED INTO THE NIGHT AND THE BADNIKS TOOK CONTROL OF THE CITY. I WAS POWERLESS TO STOP IT. ALL I COULD DO WAS WATCH."



"WE HID IN THE VILLAGE OF KNOTHOLE, DEEP IN THE WOOD ZONE."




BUT EVEN THAT REMOTE VILLAGE WASN'T COMPLETELY SAFE. WE COULD RUN BUT WE COULDN'T HIDE FOREVER."



"EASY WOULDN'T BRING JUSTICE OR GET MY KINGDOM BACK."



"INSPIRED BY SONIC'S HEROISM, I BROUGHT TOGETHER THE--"



"WE WERE ORPHANS AND RUNAWAYS. WE WERE WOUNDED, FRIGHTENED AND LOST. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY EASY TO CURL UP IN THE SHADOWS AND GIVE UP."



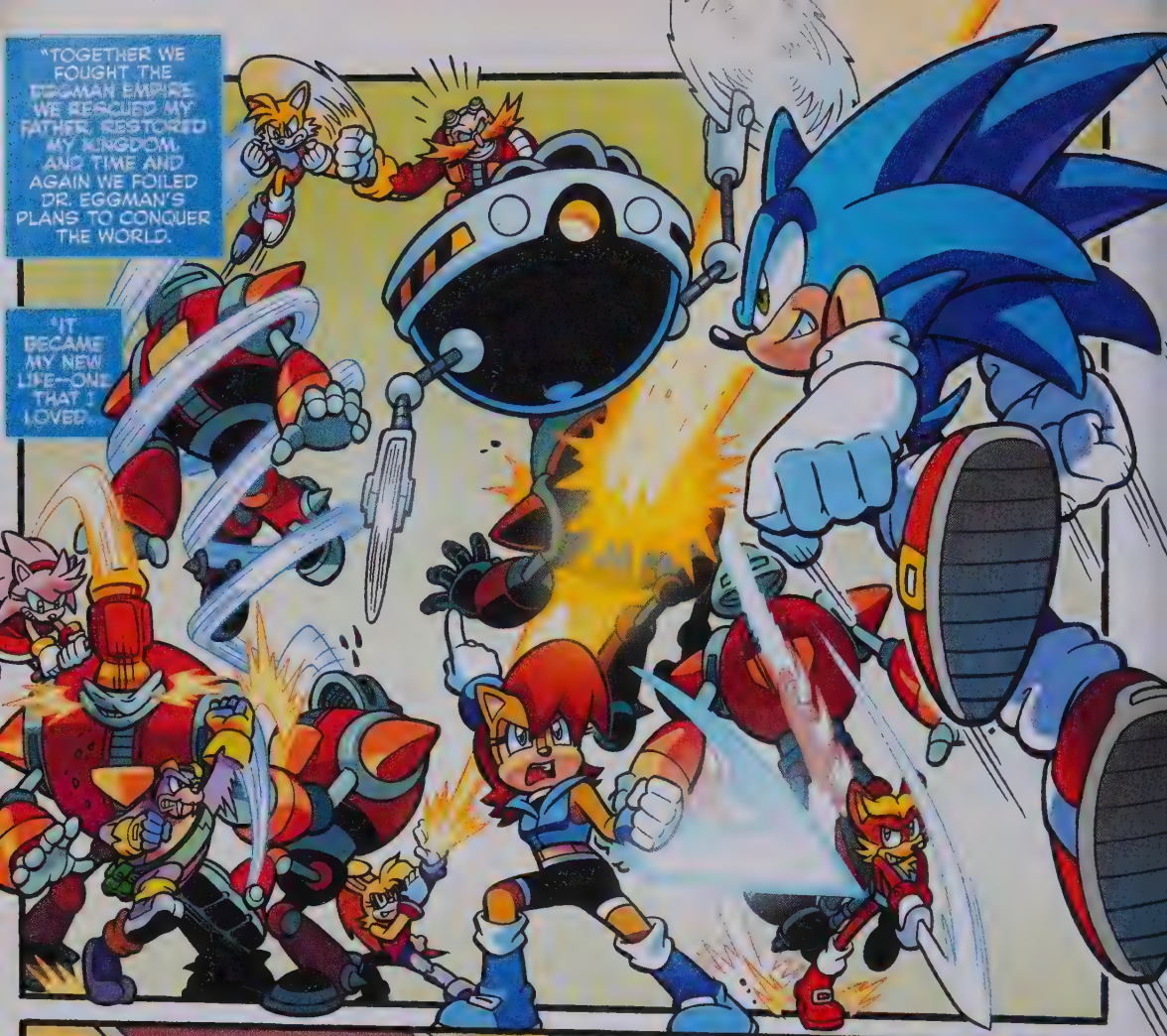
"BUT 'EASY' WOULDN'T AVENGE THE FALLEN."



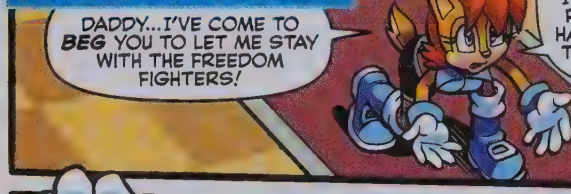
FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

"TOGETHER WE FOUGHT THE EGGMAN EMPIRE. WE RESCUED MY FATHER, RESTORED MY KINGDOM, AND TIME AND AGAIN WE FOILED DR. EGGMAN'S PLANS TO CONQUER THE WORLD."

"IT BECAME MY NEW LIFE—ONE THAT I LOVED."



"...AND ONE THAT I WAS SURE I'D HAVE TO GIVE UP ONE DAY."



DADDY...I'VE COME TO **BEG** YOU TO LET ME STAY WITH THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

WE DO SO MUCH **GOOD** TOGETHER! I REALIZE I'M THE PRINCESS, AND I HAVE OBLIGATIONS TO THE KINGDOM, BUT...



SALLY, YOU **HONOR** OUR KINGDOM WITH YOUR SELFLESS HEROISM. AND WHILE I'LL ALWAYS WORRY FOR MY LITTLE GIRL, IT WOULD BE **MADNESS** ON MY PART TO TAKE YOU AWAY FROM YOUR TEAM.



I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE. I WILL HANDLE THE MATTERS OF STATE **HERE**. YOU STAY WITH THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND PROTECT THE **WORLD**.



COME TO THINK OF IT... YES, THE PEACEFUL TIMES WERE GOOD.

THE ROAD HAS BEEN HARD. BUT I'VE FOUND SUCH WONDERFUL FRIENDS AND SUCH A GREAT PURPOSE--I WOULDN'T TRADE IT FOR ANYTHING.

YO, SAL! YOU GONNA COORDINATE THE TEAM OR WHAT?



SINCE WHEN DID YOU EVER *WAIT* FOR ME TO HAVE A PLAN?

SINCE WHEN DID YOU EVER TAKE SO LONG TO COME UP WITH ONE?

QUIT DODGING MY QUESTIONS AND START DODGING ATTACKS. I NEED YOU TO COVER ME WHILE I LINK UP WITH ANTOINE AND BUNNIE.

CAN DO. ON YOUR MARK!



MARK!

TIME TO SQUASH THAT GIANT BUG!

"I WAS BORN TO LEAD, AND ONE DAY I'LL TAKE THE THRONE. UNTIL THEN, I'M PERFECTLY HAPPY LEADING MY **FREEDOM FIGHTERS!**"



SONIC & EKTOR
ART BY RAFA KNIGHT



HAHAHAHA

SONIC COMIC ORIGINS
**ROTOR--THE
EXILED INVENTOR**

BOOM

ARE YOU
AIMING AT
ME OR WHAT,
YA HUNK
O'JUNK?

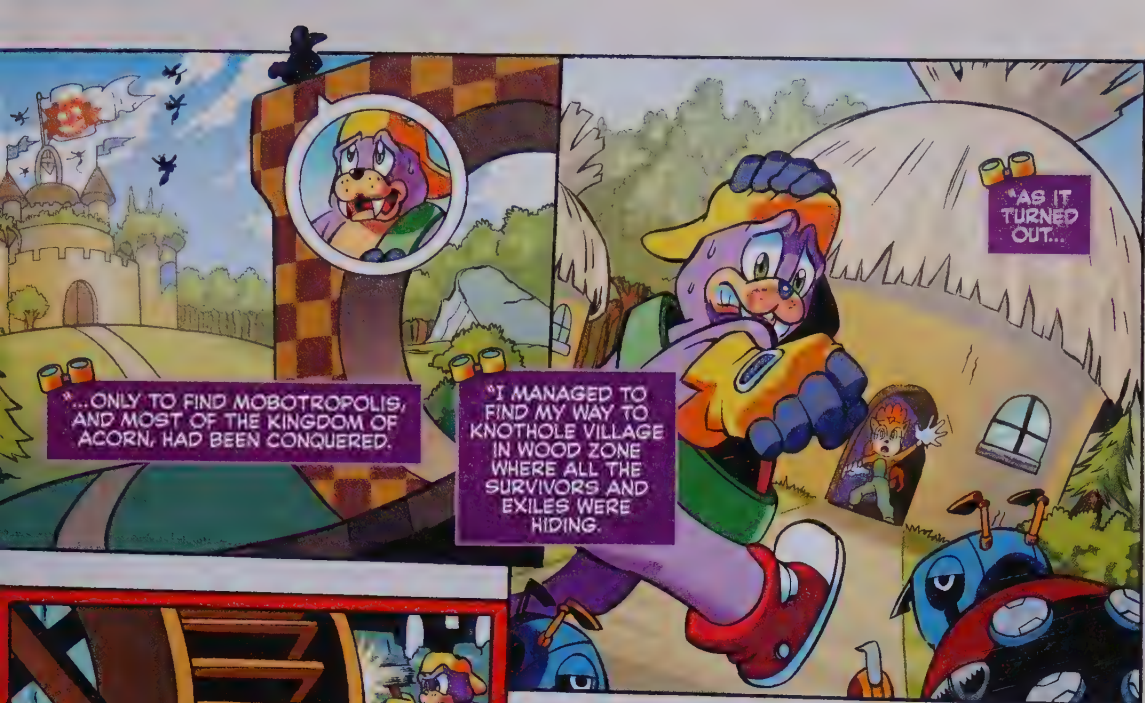
SONIC'S ON THE
MOVE--AND THAT
SCORPIUS-THING IS
RIGHT BEHIND HIM! IT
LOOKS LIKE SALLY
IS REGROUPING
WITH ANTOINE...

GOOD! THAT
MEANS SHE HAS
A PLAN. WE NEED
TO HURRY UP AND
GET THIS CANNON
WORKING.

ABOARD THE
SKY PATROL
--TRAINING
SIMULATOR








...THEY NEEDED A LOT OF NEW AND DIFFERENT IDEAS.



A large red mechanical device with a purple arm holding a yellow and orange tool. Sonic the Hedgehog is sitting on the device, giving a thumbs up. Tails is hanging from the side. The background is a simple tan wall.

"I DIDN'T NEED ANY
CONVINCING TO JOIN THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS.
IT FELT GOOD TO APPLY
MYSELF, SMASH SOME
BADNIKS, DO SOME
GOOD...

Dr. Eggman is in a workshop, working on a red propeller airplane. He is using a tool on the propeller. The floor is checkered, and there are some tools and parts around.

"...AND **BUILD!** OH, THE THINGS
I GOT TO BUILD! WEAPONS,
VEHICLES, DOO-DADS, AND MY
CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT...

A small icon of Dr. Eggman's head with a bomb on top.

...THE

SKY PATROL!

...BATTLESHIP,
HOME-AWAY-FROM-HOME,
HEADQUARTERS--
SHE DOES EVERYTHING!"





THERE! WHU-- SORRY?
I'VE GOT THE WIRING SORTED OUT.

ALRIGHT, LET'S BRING THE THUNDER TO THAT BOT!

YEAH! AND NOT-- Y'KNOW-- HAVE IT BLOW UP IN OUR FACES.

HAHAHARRRRGH
BOOM
VMMMMMMM

YEAH! YEAH! THAT'LL DO NICELY!

WOO! NICE SHOT, GUYS!

THANKS, SONIC! WE'RE READY TO MOVE ON TO GATE TWO!

AND WHATEVER GETS IN OUR WAY, YOU CAN BE SURE I'LL KNOCK IT DOWN!

MAY BE A LONG WAY FROM MY BIRTHPLACE, BUT HERE? IN THE THICK OF IT WITH THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS? I'M HOME."

CHAPTER 8



SONIC SUPER DIGEST 8
COVER BY RAFA KNIGHT



HAHAHAHAHAAAAA RRRRRGH!!!
KA-BOOM!


HAHA!
SAY G'NITE,
GRUESOME!

BON! IT
LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE
EZ DOING WELL. AND
SALLY EZ EN ROUTE TO
BE HELPING US...

SONIC™ COMIC ORIGINS

LITTLE LOST SOLDIER

...WHICH I AM
THINKING EZ **VERY** MUCH
NEEDED RIGHT NOW.
FIGHTING ZE NIGHTMARISH
ROBOTS WAS **NOT** WHAT
I SIGNED UP FOR!

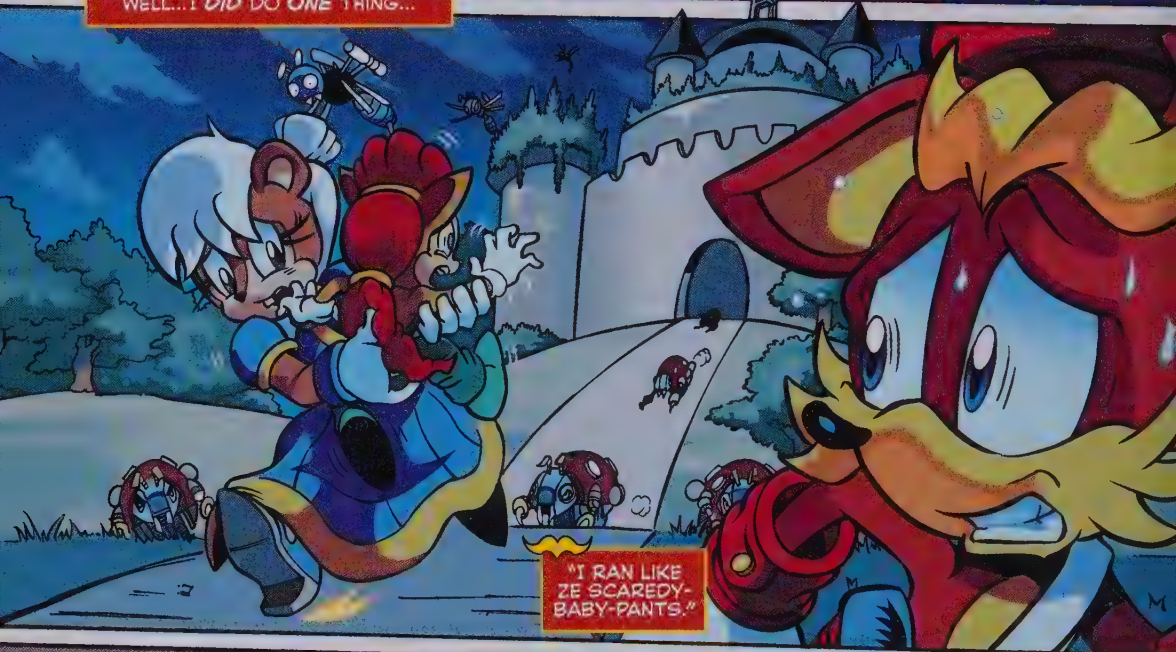


"I CAME TO MOBOTROPOLIS ON ZE APPRENTICE EXCHANGE PROGRAM. I DID NOT KNOW ZE POLITICS BEHIND IT--JUST ZAT IT WAS AN HONOR TO BE THERE.

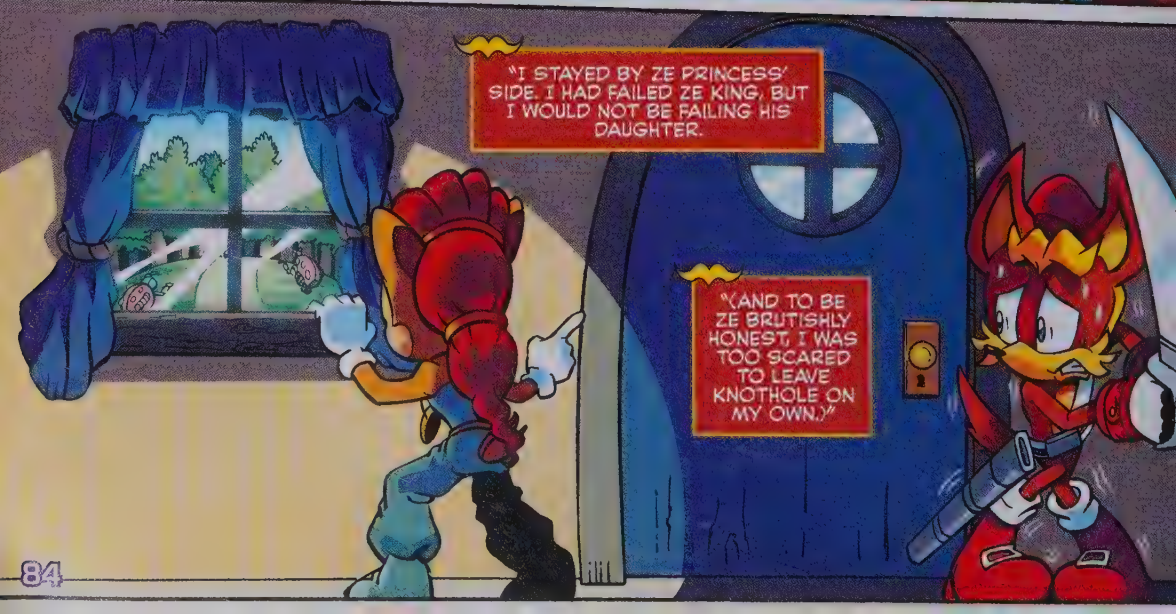
"BE BRAVE," MY FATHER SAID BEFORE HE SENT ME AWAY. I THOUGHT I KNEW WHAT HE MEANT THEN.

"I PRESENTED MYSELF TO ZE KING, MY FATHER'S SWORD AT MY SIDE, AND SWORE TO BE PROTECTING ZE CROWN AND COUNTRY.

"AND YET, I COULD NOT PROTECT ANYTHING WHEN DR. EGGMAN'S BADNIKS TOOK ZE CAPITAL. WELL...I *DID* DO ONE THING...



"I RAN LIKE ZE SCAREDY-BABY-PANTS."



"I STAYED BY ZE PRINCESS' SIDE. I HAD FAILED ZE KING, BUT I WOULD NOT BE FAILING HIS DAUGHTER.

"(AND TO BE ZE BRUTISHLY HONEST, I WAS TOO SCARED TO LEAVE KNOTHOLE ON MY OWN.)"

"AS FOR ZE PRINCESS HERSELF... ~~ZE~~ SHE WAS
ZO DARING, ZO SMART AND BEAUTIFUL...



"I TRIED
COURTING
SALLY ZE
DASHING
SOLDIER
AND ZE
LOVELY
PRINCESS
--JUST
LIKE ZE
STORY-
BOOKS.
NON?"



"BUT SHE... I WAS...
IT DID NOT WORK OUT.

"IT TOOK ME
ZE LONG TIME
TO UNDER-
STAND WHY.



"I WAS ASHAMED OF
MY OWN COWARDICE,
SO I PUT ON ZE
BRAVE FACE

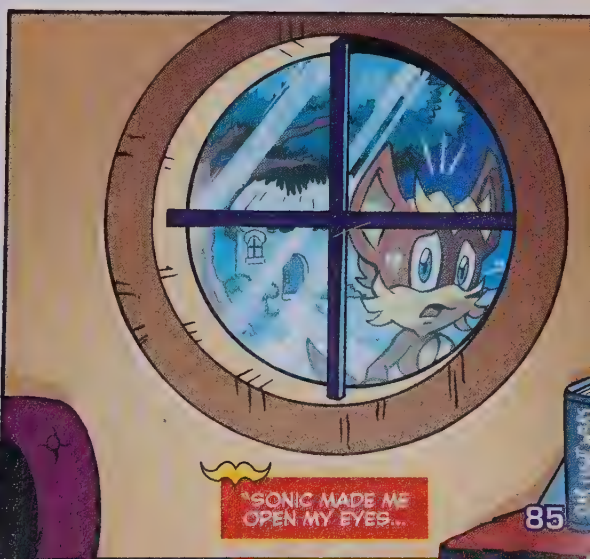


"SOMEONE SO LOUD AND SELF-ASSURED COULD
NOT BE AFRAID OF EVERYTHING--NON?"

"IT DID NOT HELP ZE MATTERS
ZAT SONIC SHOWED UP. HE WAS
ZO BRAVE, ZO POWERFUL,
ZO COOL-- ALL WITHOUT TRYING.



"IT MADE ME
REALIZE HOW
FALSE I WAS.
MY BOASTING
DID NOT MAKE
ME BRAVE.
SO WHAT DID?"



"SONIC MADE ME
OPEN MY EYES..."

...BUT IT WAS *SHE* WHO SHOWED ME ZE ANSWER.

"ZIS GIRL, WHO HAD SUFFERED SO MUCH, BUT REFUSED TO GIVE UP.

"SOMEONE WHO WAS SO BEAUTIFUL IN SO MANY WAYS...

"WE JOINED ZE FREEDOM FIGHTERS TOGETHER. WE FOUGHT TOGETHER FOR SO LONG...

I AM ZE COWARD. MY FATHAIR SENT ME HERE, SAYING "BE BRAVE, MY SON."

BUT I AM NOT BRAVE. I AM SIMPLY TOO SCARED TO RUN AWAY.

ANTOINE...

...IT BECAME ZE POETRY IN MOTION. WE WERE MORE THAN ZE COMRADES IN ARMS...

SUGAR-TWAN...DON'T YOU SEE? IT'S NOT THAT YOU WERE "TOO SCARED." IT'S THAT YOU KEPT ON FIGHTIN' **DESPITE** IT. BEIN' BRAVE AIN'T ABOUT NOT BEIN' SCARED. IT'S ABOUT DOING WHAT YOU NEED TO DO EVEN WHEN YOU **ARE** SCARED.

TO BE SO FAR FROM HOME, TO STAY SO TRUE TO YER FRIENDS... IT WAS **YOUR** BRAVERY THAT INSPIRED ME TO MAKE IT SO FAR.

"WE HAD BECOME MORE THAN FRIENDS. WE NEEDED EACH OTHER, COMPLETED EACH OTHER.

"PROPOSING TO HER WAS THE SCARIEST THING I HAVE EVER DONE--BUT SHE MADE ME BRAVE ENOUGH TO ASK."



"SHE HELPED ME UNCOVER WHO I REALLY AM--A SOLDIER IN SERVICE TO ZE ACORN KINGDOM."

"SO YES--I DID SIGN UP FOR THIS. I SIGNED UP FOR EVERY ADVENTURE TO COME MY WAY. AND I HAVE MA THERE AT MY SIDE TO SHARE IN THEM ALL!"



GYEEP!

ANTOINE!

SORRY!

"Ahem! THERE IS NO NEEDING TO APOLOGIZE. IF YOU WERE ZE BADNIK, I WOULD'VE TRICKED YOU INTO...ZE FALSE CONFIDENCE?"

SURE. WHERE'S BUNNIE?



SCOUTING ZE OTHER SIDE.

THEN LET'S LINK UP WITH HER AND END THIS!

LEAD ZE WAY, MA PRINCESS!

"NO MATTER WHAT SHORE I AM ON. NO MATTER WHAT Foe I FACE, I AM READY WHEN ALONGSIDE MY FELLOW

FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

CHAPTER 7

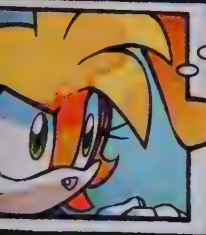


SONIC & BUNNIE
ART BY SEGA & RAFA KNIGHT



HAHA!
SAY G'NITE,
GRUESOME!

YAHOO!
LOOKS LIKE SONIC
AND THE BOYS ARE
HOLDIN' THEIR OWN.
AND AH'M GUESSIN'
SALLY IS MOVING TO
RENDEZVOUS WITH
'TWAN...



SONIC COMIC ORIGINS

The **Belle**
in the **MACHINE**

...WHICH MEANS
YER ABOUT TO BE
SCRAP, YA GRUESOME
SO-AND-SO!



GROWIN' UP, AH NEVER WOULD'VE GUESSED AH'D BE FIGHTING EVIL OVERLORDS AND THEIR GIANT MACHINES.

NO, AH WAS ALL SET TO BE A "PROPER L'I'L LADY." AH'D GROW UP, MARRY SOME NICE FELLAH, AND SETTLE DOWN.

"AH WAS DREAMIN' OF BEIN' A HAIRSTYLIST, OR A BEAUTICIAN OR SOME SUCH. NOT THAT THOSE ARE *BAD* THINGS...

"...BUT LIFE NEVER GOES AS YOU EXPECT IT TO...

"WHEN DR. EGGMAN TOOK OVER MOBOTROPOLIS, AH WAS ONE OF THE FOLKS CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE.

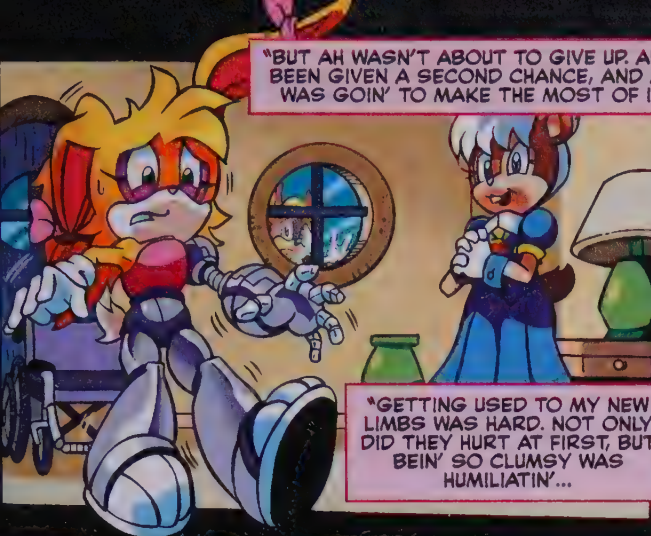
"AH WASN'T GONNA MAKE IT THROUGH THE NIGHT. WITH THE HOSPITAL HALF-DESTROYED AND THE CITY OCCUPIED, UNCLE CHUCK DID THE ONLY THING HE COULD...

"...HE SMUGGLED ME INTO HIS LAB AND MADE ME THE FIRST PATIENT OF HIS PROTOTYPE MEDICAL **ROBOTICIZER**.

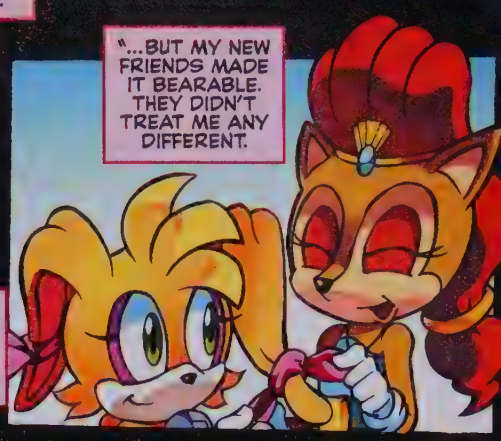
"MAH MANGLED LIMBS WERE TURNED INTO CYBERNETICS. THE PROCESS SAVED MAH LIFE...

"...AND TURNED ME INTO A FREAK.

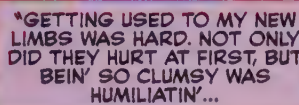
"OR SO AH THOUGHT AT THE TIME."



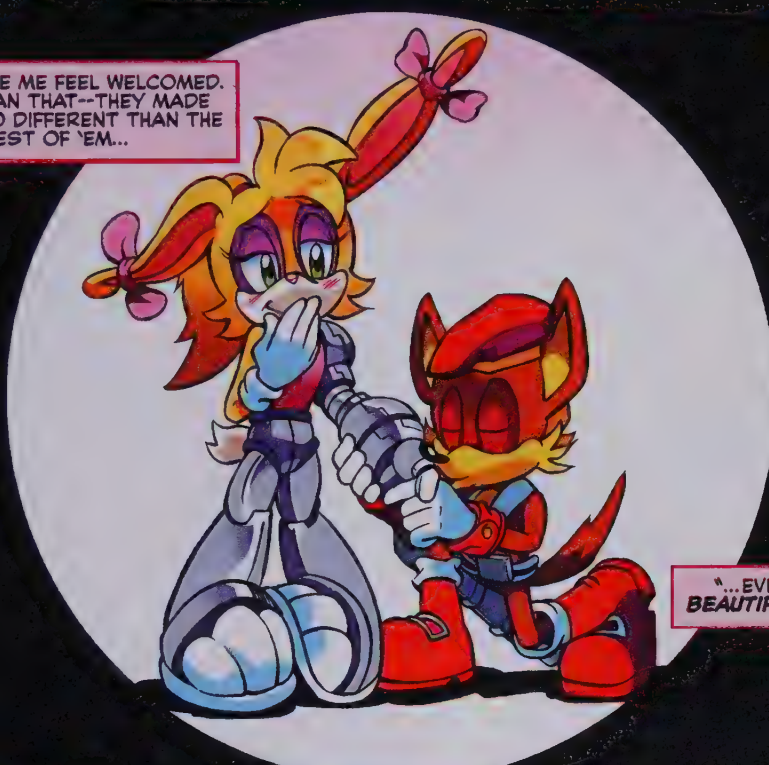
"BUT AH WASN'T ABOUT TO GIVE UP. AH'D BEEN GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE, AND AH WAS GOIN' TO MAKE THE MOST OF IT.



"...BUT MY NEW FRIENDS MADE IT BEARABLE. THEY DIDN'T TREAT ME ANY DIFFERENT.



"GETTING USED TO MY NEW LIMBS WAS HARD. NOT ONLY DID THEY HURT AT FIRST, BUT BEIN' SO CLUMSY WAS HUMILIATIN'...



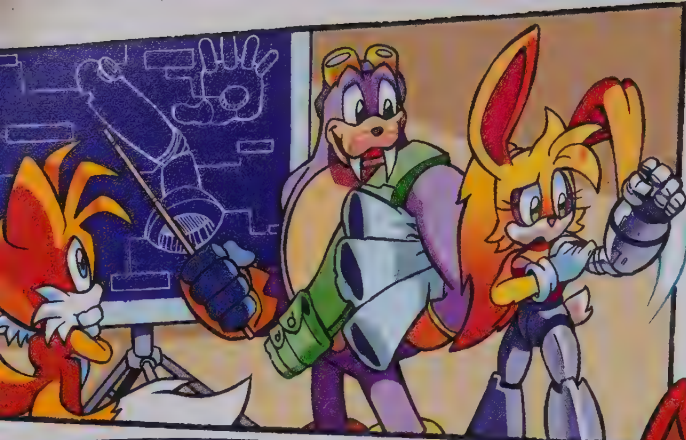
"THEY MADE ME FEEL WELCOMED. MORE THAN THAT--THEY MADE ME FEEL NO DIFFERENT THAN THE REST OF 'EM...



"...EVEN BEAUTIFUL...



"...AND TOGETHER WE CREATED THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS



"AH HAD FOUND MY PLACE ON THE TEAM, AND THAT MEANT AH NEEDED TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE."

"IF EGGMAN WAS GONNA KEEP MAKIN' BIGGER AND NASTIER MACHINES, AH NEEDED AN UPGRADE TOO."

"ROTOR AND TAILS HANDLED THE HARDWARE. ANTOINE HANDLED MAH SOUL..."

THERE'S PROLLI NO CHANCE AH'LL GET MY OL' LIMBS BACK AFTER THIS, Y'KNOW.

ZO? ZAT WILL NOT CHANGE WHO YOU ARE, MA CHERE. YOU WILL STILL HAVE YOUR COURAGEOUS HEART AND YOUR BEAUTIFUL SPIRIT.

SUGAR-TWAN... YOU SHO' KNOW HOW TO MAKE A GIRL FEEL SPECIAL.

BECAUSE YOU ARE SPECIAL--TO MOI. I SHALL BE ZE FIRST ONE YOU SEE WHEN YOU WAKE UP. BONNE CHANCE.

"MAYBE AH WOULD HAVE BEEN A GREAT STYLIST. PROLLI WOULDN'T MAKE A VERY DAINTY LADY OF THE COURT, THOUGH.



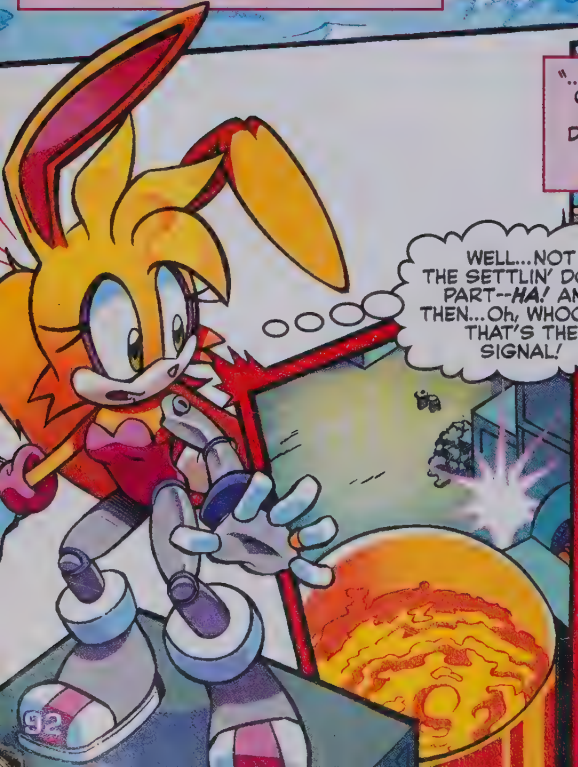
"'CAUSE NOW AH'M A ROCKET-FLYIN', LASER-FIRIN', BADNIK-BUSTIN' FREEDOM FIGHTER--AND AH'M LOVIN' IT!"

"IT DON'T MATTER AH'M HALF MACHINE. AH'VE LEARNED TO ACCEPT WHO AH AM. WHAT AH AM..."

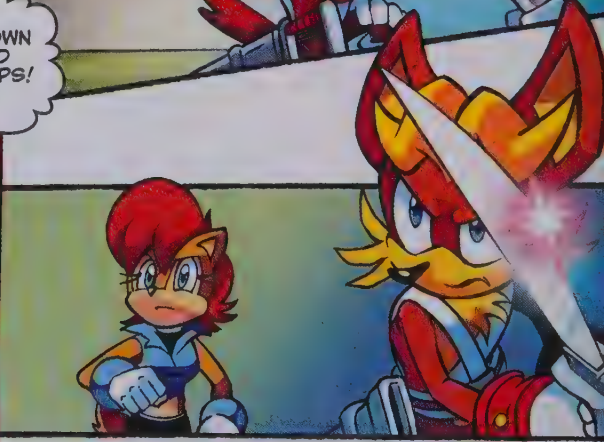
"...AND THE ONE WHO HELPED ME THE MOST IN REALIZIN' THAT IS NOW MY HUSBAND..."



"...SO AH GUESS ONE A THOSE CHILDHOOD DREAMS CAME TRUE AFTER ALL!"



WELL...NOT THE SETTLIN' DOWN PART--HA! AND THEN...Oh, WHOOPS! THAT'S THE SIGNAL!





G-N-H

K-T-Z

AWW! YOU WRAPPED IT UP BEFORE I COULD HAVE SOME FUN!

THEN YOU SHOULD'VE SPENT LESS TIME HIGH-FIVING ROTOR AND TAILS. C'MON-- IF WE HURRY, WE CAN HELP TEAM ROSE!

*NOPE--AH WOULDN'T TRADE THIS LIFE FOR ANYTHING.

*LOVE, FRIENDS, A LIFE OF ADVENTURE...

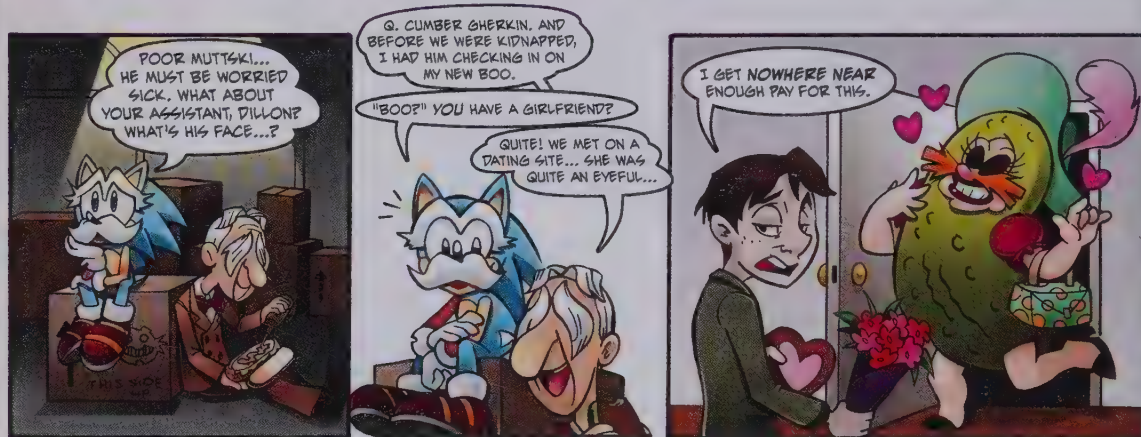
IT'S MORE THAN AH EVER DREAMED OF HAVING!

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES IN THE NEW ISSUES OF **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG** and **SONIC UNIVERSE**--
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BACKGROUND ART BY VINCENT LOVALLO



COVER ART BY
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CHAPTER 2 BY EVAN STANLEY

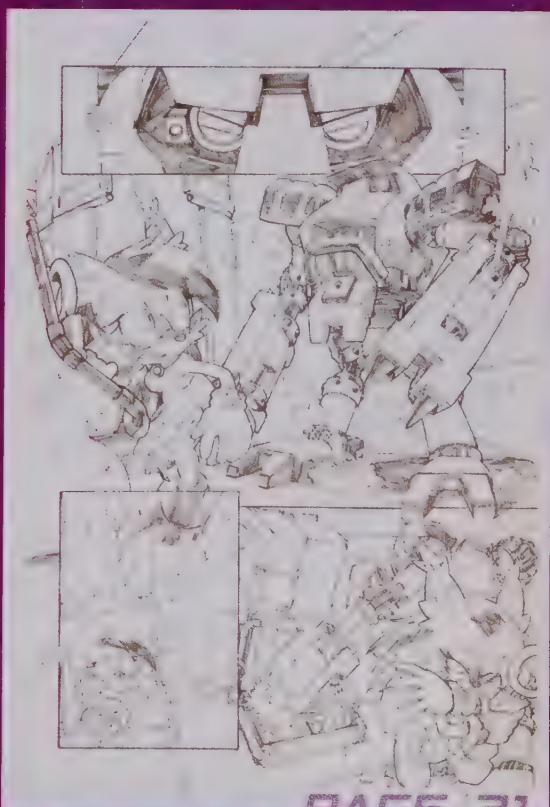
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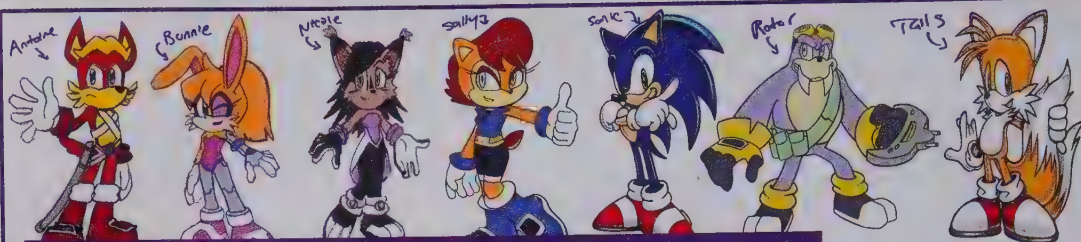
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PRODUCTION ART:

DESIGNING THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

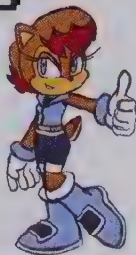


THE NEW FREEDOM FIGHTERS: PRELIMINARY CAST LINE-UP

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B



B^{1,2}



B²



SALLY ACORN ART
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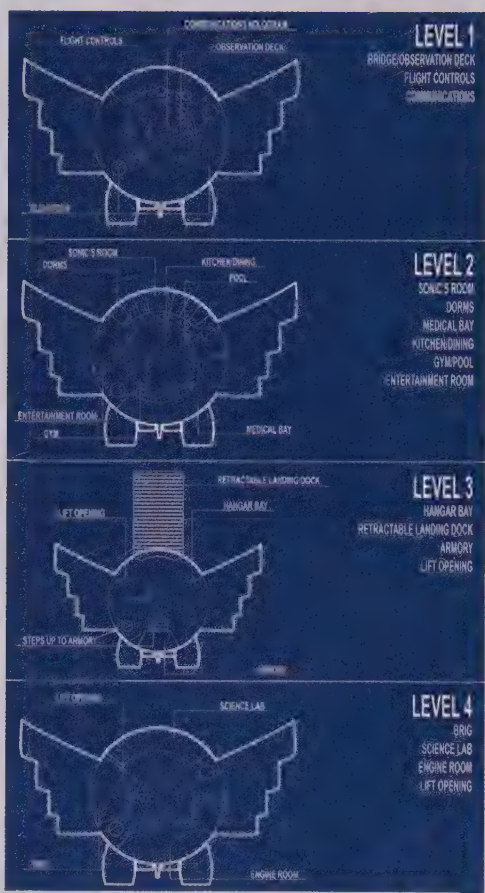
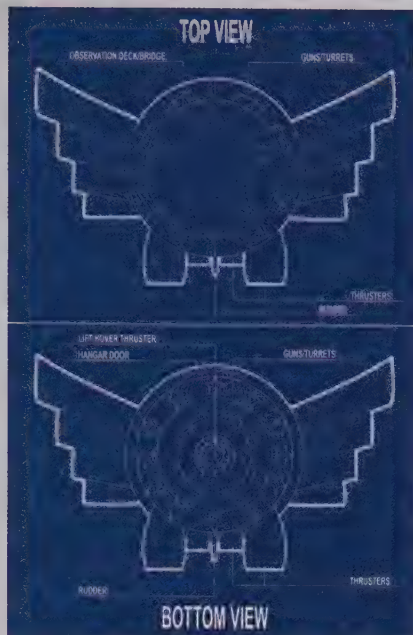
MUTTSKI



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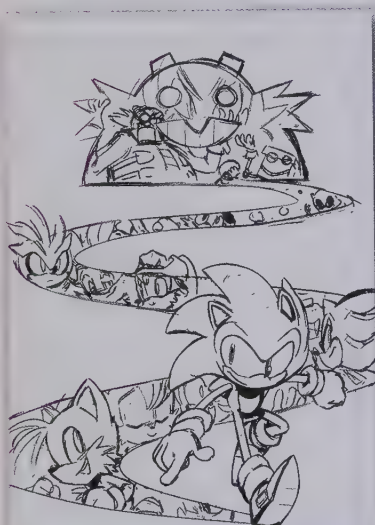
COVER CONCEPTS



**SONIC 257 THUMBNAIL
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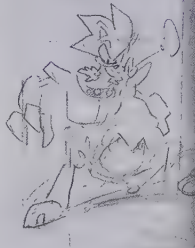
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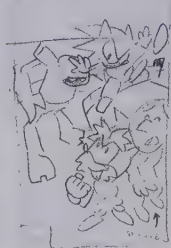
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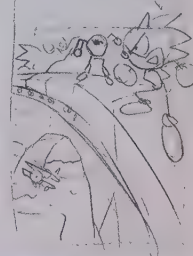
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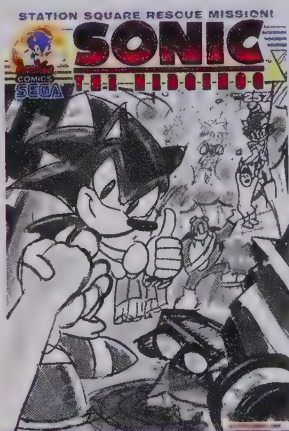
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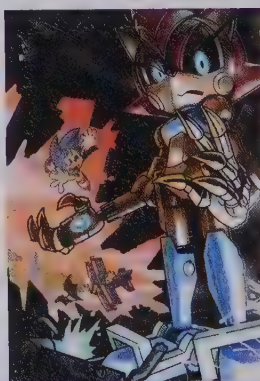
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**SONIC 259 THUMBNAILS
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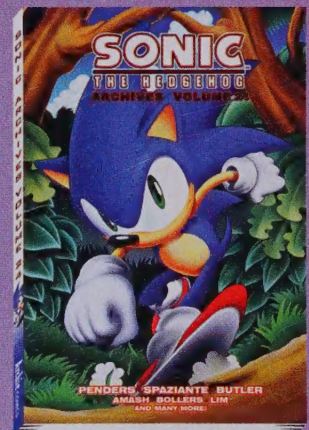
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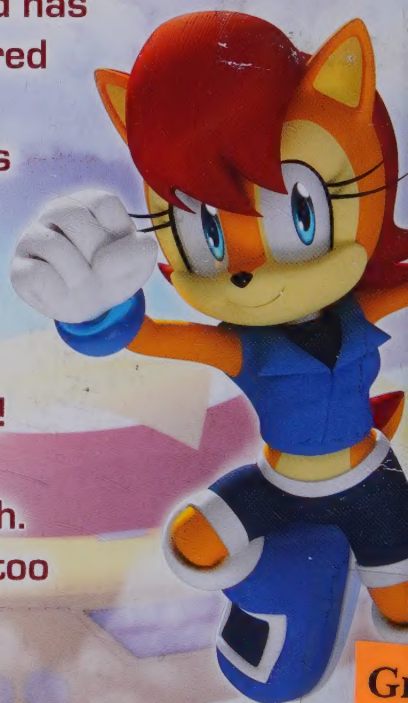
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